

Captors link hostages to prisoners

BEIRUT (R) — An underground group holding two American hostages in Lebanon has said the issue of its captives "hangs on the board of fate" unless Israel free 400 Arab detainees. The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (JILP) said in a statement delivered to the Beirut offices of Al Nahar newspaper late Tuesday that the United States was to blame for the impasse in efforts to obtain the release of the hostages. The strongly-worded JILP statement seemed to confirm other denunciations from pro-Iranian leaders that the plight of 12 Western hostages, including six Americans and three Britons, was far from approaching a happy ending. "What is new in this issue is that we refuse in the first place to discuss any release of the hostages except on the basis of liberating 400 prisoners. Otherwise, let the matter hang on the board of fate," the JILP said. The statement was accompanied by a coloured polaroid photograph of Alain Stecco, 52, as a proof of its authenticity. A bearded Stecco, wearing a beige sports shirt with the word "Lacoste" printed on it, looked haggard. The JILP also holds American Jessie Turner, 44.

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Cabinet debates draft laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has decided to present the new government's policy statement to the Lower House of Parliament in its coming extraordinary session to win a vote of confidence, according to an official announcement Wednesday evening. The Cabinet also decided on the necessary mechanism for the preparation of the statement at the appropriate time and has set up a ministerial committee for the task. According to the announcement the Cabinet studied draft laws on political parties and press and publication, and decided to give them priority over other government concerns. It said the government would adopt procedures to prepare these laws which would be submitted to Parliament's coming extraordinary session.

Damascus wants U.S. assurances on Golan

WASHINGTON (R) — Syria, which has delayed responding to proposals from President George Bush aimed at convening an Arab-Israeli peace conference, is seeking U.S. support for its demand that Israel withdraw from the occupied Golan Heights, diplomats say.

The diplomats, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Syria wanted assurances from Washington that any negotiation it entered with Israel would include talks about the return of the strategic plateau.

"Syria is afraid that Israel is not serious about negotiating over the Golan Heights and they want some assurances that they do not enter a negotiation which shoves this issue aside," said one source.

The source said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa raised the issue with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker when they last met on June 1 in Lisbon.

Israeli-Syrian tensions have been rising recently, stoked by Israeli unhappiness over Syria's moves to increase its influence in Lebanon, Israeli air attacks of Palestinian bases there and Syrian arms purchases.

"When you have a neighbour like that you worry," Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens said in Washington Wednesday.

The source said it would be difficult for Washington to make a specific commitment that went beyond its support for United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which speak of Israel withdrawing from occupied territories in exchange for peace and secure borders.

"Any further commitment from Washington would in effect set preconditions for the negotiations and Israel would certainly refuse to participate under such terms," he said.

Mr. Bush wrote to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak earlier this month outlining compromise proposals aimed at breaking the deadlock in efforts to convene a peace conference.

Mr. Shamir rejected the proposals, which dealt with a U.N. role in the conference and whether the conference could be reconvened after its opening session.

Jordan and Egypt replied to the letters in supportive terms. But Mr. Assad has still not answered, although Damascus has asked the United States to clarify some points and has been consulting with Egypt, Jordan and the Soviet Union over its response.

One source said Mr. Assad might have decided to delay replying to take advantage of a perceptible deterioration in U.S.-Israeli relations as a result of Israel's continued drive to build Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

Syria is demanding a significant U.N. role in a peace conference and wants the right to reconvene the forum. In a significant shift on Wednesday, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa for the first time publicly backed the Syrian position.

"Egypt will not accept a marginal role for the United Nations because it is the author of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of inadmissibility of seizing land by force," Mr. Musa told reporters in Cairo.

Israel rejects any U.N. role and wants the conference to be a one-time ceremonial event which would not be reconvened. It says the real negotiations must be bilateral.

Mr. Musa again described new Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as an obstacle to peace.

"Building settlements is a challenge and represents an obstacle on the path to peace. It is an illegal act in itself," he added.

Mr. Musa said the Israeli rejection would not stop peace moves.

"Efforts will continue to overcome the obstacles presented by the Israeli rejection of several fundamentals that should be followed in the peace process," he said.

U.S. lawmakers use aid as tool to increase pressure on Jordan

By Rania Atalla
in Washington

LAST WEEK'S move by U.S. legislators to cut off \$27 million in military assistance to Jordan, initially intended as "punishment" for the Kingdom's "pro-Iraqi" stand during the Gulf crisis, turned into an opportunity for pro-Israel lawmakers to legislate language designed to enhance the Jewish state's position vis-a-vis the Kingdom.

Before Jordan is to receive its share of U.S. military assistance, the president would have to certify to Congress that Amman is helping the Middle East peace process or that providing such assistance to Jordan is beneficial to peace. Should the sanctions against Baghdad remain in place, the White House would also have to prove to the lawmakers Jordan's compliance with the United Nations embargo against Iraq.

The debate by members of the U.S. House of Representatives on the suspension of military assistance to Jordan reflected the definite lack of consensus between the executive branch of government and a majority in the House regarding the Kingdom's standing in the U.S. While the reduction in aid was passed with overwhelming approval, the administration viewed it as a setback, restricting as it does Washington's flexibility in foreign policy at a time when Secretary of State James Baker is attempting to get a peace process going by convening a peace conference. Only four out of the 435 participating House members voted against the reduction of U.S. assistance to Jordan.

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New cracks in Gulf security agreement

BAHRAIN (R) — New cracks have appeared in a Gulf Arab agreement to station Egyptian and Syrian troops in the region as a deterrent against possible attack. Gulf-based diplomats say.

They said Oman last week told fellow members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) that it wanted to amend plans to make Egyptian and Syrian troops an integral part of a Gulf Arab defence force.

If any GCC state wanted Egyptian and Syrian forces to be stationed on its own soil, Oman preferred that this should be decided bilaterally between the countries concerned, they said.

"The Omanis have been wobbling on the terms of the Damascus agreement... they are putting pressure on the other GCC states because they see the presence of Egyptian and Syrian troops as a violation of the group's integrity," one diplomat said.

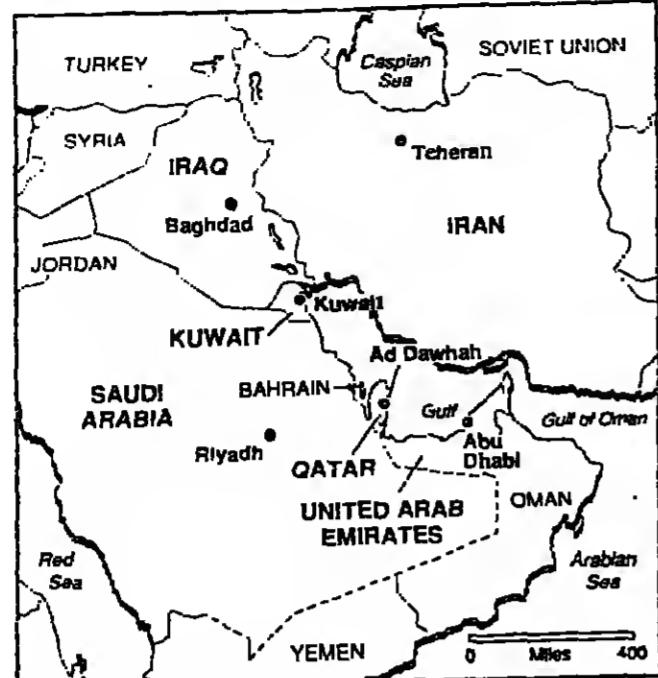
The GCC members — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — agreed in Damascus in March that troops from Egypt and Syria, their allies during the Gulf war, would contribute directly to a post-war peace force.

The plan faltered, partly due to political misgivings on the part of the six conservative Gulf monarchies and partly because of pressure from non-Arab Iran, which wanted to be included.

Upset by the absence of a formal invitation, Egypt announced last month it would pull out the last of a 35,000-strong Egyptian contingent which took part in Operation Desert Storm, the U.S.-led campaign which pushed Iraqi forces out of Kuwait.

A visit by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to Kuwait last week ended the diplomatic tiff and laid the foundations for Cairo's contribution to a 26,000-strong Arab force to be stationed in Kuwait.

Diplomats in Kuwait said the force would comprise 10,000 Saudis, the 5,000-strong Kuwait armed forces, 10,000 men from



the other four GCC states and a brigade of 3,000 men from each of Syria and Egypt.

The force was expected to be in place before a summit of GCC states in Kuwait in December.

But diplomats from other Gulf states said Oman, which has strong ties with neighbouring Iran, openly voiced its objections after President Mubarak's visit to Kuwait.

The other GCC states would probably accept the amendment proposed by Oman because they were not happy about a permanent Egyptian and Syrian presence on their soil and they felt Iraq would not be a threat for some years to come, they said.

"Basically everyone is willing to let Kuwait do what it wants because it is closest to Iraq and needs protection the most," said one.

"But the other GCC states would prefer to build up their own forces and continue to have friendly ties with Iran," he added.

GCC states supported Iraq to varying degrees during its eight-

year war with Iran but the alliance reversed itself dramatically after Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2.

Tehran remained neutral in the conflict while denouncing the presence of foreign troops in the region. It said the Damascus agreement was "defective" because it excluded Iran, which has the longest coastline in the region.

The U.S. military said on Tuesday nearly half a million of the American servicemen and women sent to the region for the war to force Iraq out of Kuwait had left, leaving fewer than 50,000.

The United States and other Western powers in the coalition have insisted they do not want to maintain a military presence on the ground in the Gulf and would prefer GCC states to build up their own defences.

Washington said it would leave a small command and control headquarters in the area but Gulf-based diplomats said no formal agreement had been yet reached with any Gulf state.

Arabian nights, sunshine and shopping lure tourists to Dubai

By Ragip Erten
Reuter

DUBAI — Arabian nights, sunshine and cut-price shopping are luring tourists to Dubai, written off as a holiday destination during the Gulf war when most foreign visitors were soldiers.

Camel safaris under the crescent moon, belly-dancers emerging from rolled up Persian rugs, sand-skiing, scuba diving and a five-star golf course are among the attractions the country has to offer.

Dubai's tourism chiefs want to encourage wealthy visitors seeking Arabian adventure with Western-style comforts.

Patrick MacDonald, deputy chief executive at the Dubai Commerce and Tourism Promotion Board (DCTPB), said the country was looking for the kind of tourist "who wants to take a shower in his room after a day in the desert and have wine at dinner." Alcohol is available to non-Muslims in Dubai.

But he said the emirate was aiming at exclusivity and was determined to keep package tourists away.

"You cannot just promote mass tourism and cheap package tours... we obviously have to safe-

guard the cultural integrity of Dubai."

Mr. MacDonald said Dubai started to promote tourism in the late 1980s to fill hotels built during the oil-boom days for businessmen.

His board participates in all major tourism fairs around the world and has offices in Europe, North America and the Far East.

Overall hotel occupancy rates are around 55 per cent, although many were full to capacity during the Gulf crisis, not with tourists but with soldiers from the 28-nation multinational force gathered in the Gulf to expel Iraq from Kuwait.

Dubai, trying to diversify its economy before its oil wells run dry early next century, has the infrastructure for tourism.

It possesses top-class hotels with more than 4,500 beds — 1,000 more will be added in the next two years — two resort hotels, an airline, a well-functioning airport and an 18-hole, grass golf course.

The DCTPB is striving to boost the image of Dubai as an international exhibition centre for the region.

The country also wants a slice of the fast-growing "incentive tourism," market. Major international companies are offering the

incentive of all expenses holidays to get the best out of their employees or agents.

In Dubai it is sometimes difficult to judge where shopping ends and sight-seeing starts. There is only a four per cent customs tax, low enough to entice visitors to shops packed with Japanese video recorders, cameras or audio equipment.

"Many business travellers make it a point to venture out into the desert, to see what the sand dunes are like," said Maria Kazan, public relations manager at the Dubai Inter-Continental Hotel.

Desert safaris complete with camels and belly-dancers are offered for those who want a glimpse of the Arabia of legend.

Holger Nystedt, general manager of Net Tours, a company specialising in bringing out tourists from Scandinavia, said the basic cost of a week's holiday in Dubai was around \$2,250 per person.

"We think that we will have some 15,000 tourists from Finland next season," Nystedt said.

The season runs from October to April when temperatures are kinder to fair-skinned tourists from Europe and desert storms have blown themselves out.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

man 28, Aqaba 37. Humidity readings: Amman 66 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Adnan Al Zaghoul 88140
Dr. Ahmad Al Taha 88400
Dr. Ahmad Al Dwey 67473
Dr. Mohammad Abu Mahfouz 79344
Firdous pharmacy 661912
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Nahratukh pharmacy 623672
Al Saman pharmacy 627630
Yasmeen pharmacy 64445
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBD:
Dr. Ali Samman (—)
Al Shara'a pharmacy (96236)

CHURCHES
St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Tel. 62785
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 62785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 62490
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 627440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

in/mm: Amman 15 / 27
Aqaba 22 / 35
Deserts 17 / 31
Jordan Valley 20 / 34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-

Algerian Islamist party splits

ALGIERS (R) — Top officials of Algeria's main Islamic opposition movement called on militants Tuesday to ignore their leader Abassi Madani, end street violence and seek talks with the government.

It was the first public admission of a split in the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) which swept to power a year ago in over half the country's local authorities.

Three members of the front's highest policy-making body disowned Mr. Madani on Algerian television, one calling him "a danger to the country and the future of islam."

Demonstrations by FIS supporters in early June forced President Chadli Benjedid to impose a state of siege, sack the government and postpone a general election.

Fakih Bachir, one member of the FIS body, said he would no longer remain a part of the FIS as long as Mr. Madani was its leader.

"Beware, Madani is a danger to Islam, Muslims and the nation. The danger threatens the FIS. I am leaving the FIS," he said.

Ahmad Marani, head of the FIS social affairs committee, said there were people in the FIS and the government who wanted to ensure there was confrontation instead of dialogue.

"There are elements within the FIS who want to use all their power and influence to push the movement into confrontation, even before the strike," he said, referring to a FIS strike called to demand changes in electoral laws regarded as unfair by the movement.

The strike hardened into street protests in June in which at least 19 people were killed. Western diplomats said between 40 and 50 died.

On Tuesday evening, eyewitnesses reported tanks and troops heading towards the Islamic stronghold in Algiers after a day of violent clashes between fundamentalists and security forces.

Hachemi Sahnouni, known for his bardline addresses during Friday prayers, said: "More victims have fallen at a time when we have more need of peace, serenity and fraternity, and not disorder."

He urged militants not to follow "the moods of their leader" but to stay calm.

He also called for the state of siege to be lifted, the return of some 12,000 strikers, who Islamic trade union leaders say are still locked out more than two weeks after the FIS ended its strike, and the release of those arrested.

"The FIS was born to call for Islam and not to push the young into anarchy and disorder," he said.

Mr. Sahnouni, who had always been in the forefront of the FIS actions, was not seen during the FIS strike. Mr. Madani, asked about rumours of a split, said he was ill.

PLO won't let Lebanese army deploy without accord

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Wednesday it would not allow the Lebanese army to take control of areas near refugee camps in the south unless the government offered political concessions.

"We will not be an obstacle in the face of the deployment of the Lebanese army, but we will not cooperate and we will evacuate any of the positions surrounding the camps," Zeid Wehbeh, PLO representative in Lebanon told reporters in this southern port city.

"We will not participate in any committee entrusted with facilitating the army deployment unless a political agreement is reached with us."

The government of President Elias Hrawi plans to send thousands of troops in five days to Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, and the surrounding area, as part of a national unity drive after 16 years of civil war.

Mr. Wehbeh said the agreement should normalize Lebanon's relations with the PLO and guarantee security and political, civic, and social rights for Palestinians.

A political accord on the PLO military presence should be reached, he added.

More than 500,000 Palestinians sought refuge in Lebanon after the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. The PLO maintains around 6,000 guerrillas in Sidon's two refugee camps and bases in the east.

A local militia, the Popular

Army, controls the city.

Relations between the PLO and the Lebanese government were virtually ended after the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon which crushed the Palestinian military infrastructure. Lebanon refused to allow the PLO to open an office in Beirut.

Mr. Wehbeh's remarks contradicted a statement by Minister Mohsen Dalloul who announced that the PLO had agreed to withdraw its guerrillas from part of South Lebanon and allow government troops to take control.

Mr. Dalloul is entrusted by the Lebanese government with handling talks with the PLO.

If the planned deployment takes place next month, the Lebanese army will take up positions facing Israeli-backed militiamen of the South Lebanon Army at the town of Jezzine.

The government, which has disarmed all militias in northern and central Lebanon, says it will order the army to take control of all of the south, except an Israeli-occupied border strip.

According to the government plan, the army should fan out in July and the camps be disarmed by the end of September.

The PLO and other Palestinian and Lebanese groups say they need to keep their arms as long as Israel maintains its "security zone" in South Lebanon.

Israel says it will not quit the border strip it established in 1985 until it believes its northern border is safe from guerrilla attacks.

Mideast arms race can only end with Palestinian state — paper

CAIRO (R) — There can be no end to the Middle East arms race until Arabs and Israelis make peace and an independent Palestinian state is established.

Egypt's most influential newspaper said Wednesday.

Commanding on U.S. President George Bush's plan for regional arms control, the semi-official Al Ahram newspaper said the proposal seemed only aimed at cutting the military capabilities of Arab states while leaving Israel's power intact.

"A real end to the arms race in the region will not be attained without achieving just peace based on Israel's withdrawal to the borders defined by United Nations resolution 181 of 1947 and the establishment of a sovereign and independent Palestinian state in the rest of Palestine," its editorial said.

Mr. Bush announced proposals last month to stem the flow of conventional arms to the region and ban the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

Egypt is closely allied with Washington and remains the only Arab state to have made peace with Israel. But the Bush plan has been attacked in the local press for failing to address Israeli nuclear capabilities.

Israel will not confirm or deny a widespread belief that it has at

least 100 nuclear warheads and the means to deliver them.

Egypt, which has long urged a nuclear-free Middle East, is studying the Bush plan but has stressed that existing weapons of mass destruction should be addressed.

"The U.S. position and other Western positions limit the arms ban and control to Arab countries while Israel receives big quantities of arms from these countries," Al Ahram said.

Israel also has a strong domestic defence industry, unlike Arab states which must import most of their arms.

"This raises worries over intentions because Washington is making a lot of efforts to prevent China from concluding arms deals with some Arab states, especially Syria," it added.

Calling for equal treatment of all countries in the area, Al Ahram said Arab countries had the right to keep whatever weapons they deemed necessary to counter the Israeli threat.

"Israel's possession of advanced conventional weapons and nuclear and chemical arms gives other countries the right to try to obtain an appropriate deterrent force... unless these weapons are taken away from Israel," the editorial said.

Velayati cancels news conference after hotel attack on car

GENEVA (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati cancelled a scheduled news conference in a Geneva hotel on Wednesday after an Iranian embassy car was kicked and pelted with eggs by angry demonstrators.

Hotel management officials said Mr. Velayati was not in the car when it was attacked outside the hotel by 40 members of the Mujahideen Khalq movement which opposes Islamic rule in Iran.

"It was an advance party of Iranian government officials and diplomats," said a hotel spokesman. "When the incident started we warned the chauffeur of

weakened opposition.

The car sped into the hotel's underground garage where it was cornered by demonstrators before police moved in.

Other demonstrators attacked Iranian officials in the hotel lobby, witnesses said.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Germany considering deporting asylum-seekers
BONN (AP) — Germany may begin deporting asylum-seekers starting next month, the government said Tuesday. The human rights organisation Amnesty International said up to 100,000 people face deportation. The German interior ministry said the number was lower, but gave no exact figure. For years, Germany has been an attractive destination for refugees from countries including Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Ethiopia. The number of new arrivals usually runs more than 100,000 per year. Although less than 10 per cent are granted refugee status on their first request, most are allowed to stay *ad infinitum* due to individual state laws. These laws will be invalid after June 30, said Interior Ministry spokesman Paul-Johannes Fietz. He said he



Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Raef Nijem Wednesday visits the first group of pilgrims returning from Mecca and Medina (Petra photo)

Palestinian pilgrims allowed to visit relatives before leaving

AMMAN (J.T.) — Muslim pilgrims from Palestinian land occupied since 1948 are to be allowed to stay in Jordan for five days for the sake of contacting their relatives and friends before making the trip back home, according to Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Raef Nijem.

The minister made the statement upon visiting the first group of pilgrims returning to Amman from Mecca and Medina after the

Eid Al Adha holiday. The Palestinian pilgrims are being put up at the Amman International Fair Centre, south of here, and are being provided with basic services, according to Ministry of Awqaf officials who are in charge of the pilgrims.

The total number of pilgrims from the Occupied Territories and Jordan, who performed this year's pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina after the

Medina, totalled around 6,000. Ministry officials reported all to be well and in good health.

There was a clear decline in the number of pilgrims this year compared to last year's (nearly 13,000) largely due to the current economic situation in the Kingdom and Palestine and to tension caused by the Gulf war and its consequences on the Arab World.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Djibouti

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable of good wishes to Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon on the occasion of his country's national day. King Hussein wished President Aptidon good health and happiness and the Djibouti people further progress and prosperity.

Tawjih results to be announced on July 20

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education is expected to announce the results of examinations taken by Tawjih students earlier this month between July 20 and 22, according to the director of the ministry's Examination Department Mohammad Sayel-Obeidat. In a statement to Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times, Mr. Obeidat said that marking the papers and evaluating the student's work was expected to be completed by July 9. He said that several subjects had been completed and the evaluation process was proceeding as planned. A total of 62,748 students who completed the secondary stage sat for the examination which was organised by the Ministry of Education in Jordan.

Librarians to hold conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Libraries Society has started preparing for the second conference of Jordanian librarians, to be held at the Royal Cultural Centre in the period from Oct. 6-8, 1991. The conference, in which a host of Jordanian and Arab librarians will take part, aims at shedding light on the situation of the Jordanian librarians and problems facing them in their profession.

U.N. agencies to hold children competition

AMMAN (Petra) — United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) regional office and the United Nations Population Fund (UNPF) have announced holding a painting and writing competition for children aged between nine and 14. The competition, held in cooperation with Haya Arts Centre on the occasion of the World Population Day, on July 11, includes writing stories and drawing sketches which depict the population problem as well as express ways of conserving nature and the countryside and the importance of water in daily life.

Japanese agency opens office in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will establish a field office in Amman in order to promote better relations and deeper mutual understandings between Jordan and Japan, the agency has announced. The JICA Jordan Office, as the new branch is to be known, will coordinate and implement all government-based technical cooperation in the country. Among the programmes the new office will be responsible for the Technical Training Programme, Expert Dispatch Programme, Provision of Equipment for Technical Cooperation, Project-Type Technical Cooperation, Development Studies, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and Disaster Relief Aid and Cooperation.

Students camp opens in Tafleeh area

TAFILEH (Petra) — A number of students at the University of Jordan Wednesday opened a camp in the Afra health spa area, in the Tafleeh Governorate. The students will take part in renovation and restoration works at sites damaged by the rainstorms which swept Jordan last winter. Taking part in the camp are 50 university students.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Showqi Shokshi, Mohammed Al Jaloos and Rifiq Al Ruzzaz at Abdul Hamid Sharaf Foundation (10 a.m. — 8 p.m.)
- ★ Photo exhibition by Hans Richter at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ Poster exhibition at the British Council.
- ★ Ceramics exhibition by Margaret Tadros and Najwa Ammar at the Spanish Cultural Centre between June 17-30.

Theatre festival marks 25th year of activity

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Artists Association (JAA) today opens a two-week theatre festival to mark the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Jordanian theatre, according to an announcement here Wednesday.

The two-week event is being organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture to focus attention on Jordanian artists' work over the past quarter of a century, and the Jordanian theatre movement in general, according to the announcement.

Hani Snobar, chairman of a committee preparing for the festival, said that the festival aimed primarily at presenting to the public the best works of Jordanian artists and directors in a bid to help create competition designed to give real impetus to the theatre movement in the country.

Mr. Snobar said in a statement on the eve of the festival that the artists were seeking to create a board of their own to supervise and oversee their works.

He said that special awards would be distributed to prominent people involved in theatre work in Jordan. The main award, the Abdul Hamid Sharaf award, is given to the festival by Mrs. Laila Sharaf, a member of the Senate.

According to Mohammad Al Qabbani, the association's president, the festival was designed to display the good standard of the Jordanian artists and their work under various circumstances.

Referring to the festival's programmes, he said that it includes five plays besides two plays from the University of Jordan and one from the Jordan University of Science and Technology.

Mr. Qabbani said that a cultural exhibition, depicting Jordan's theatrical activity, would be opened at the Royal Cultural Centre where the festival is held.

Jordan Times

Tel: 667171

Crown Prince: Regional development bank needed to address disparities

LAISANNE (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has suggested the creation of a Red-Med development bank to serve as a vehicle for reconstruction and development.

Such a project, he said, is needed since income and wealth disparities are widening and the countries of the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea are in dire need of closer cooperation to achieve development and pro-

tection. In an address delivered on his behalf here by Dr. Jawad Al Amani, the Crown Prince also discussed the Arab-Israeli conflict and noted that the Middle East had proved that it had a troublesome nature with protracted disputes that keep the world on its toes.

The address was delivered at an international gathering attended by more than 230 prominent statesmen, businessmen and intellectuals from Arab and European nations called to study means of initiating cooperation between Europe and the Middle East region in economic, political

and financial affairs.

Following is the full text of Prince Hassan's address delivered in Lausanne Tuesday:

It is indeed an honour to address this distinguished panel of top government and business executives who, upon the invitation of the reputable World Economic Forum, are gathered to discuss a variety of timely topics related to the Middle East. I was specifically asked to address the political aspects to the topic entitled "Cooperation in the Middle East: A Vital Asset for Global Prosperity". Since we are all here blessed with the "Davos Spirit", I shall within that spirit make my brief remarks.

Let us first of all acknowledge

the fact that the aggravated uncertainty of the Middle East should not scare us away from beginning the future. The Middle East has proved beyond doubt that its troublesome nature and protracted disputes can keep the world on its toes. Its internal cumulative grievances and conflicts may force the whole world community off balance even at a

time when the world converges on peace and on a path of rational mutual interests.

It may seem paradoxical or an exercise in equivocation to say that counterintuitive actions are needed to cure the ills of the area. Some parties in the area, motivated by their Gulf war inhibitions, may shun the notion of internal cooperation. Yet still it is the very thing which all rational parties should emphasise. The urge by some of us to utilise the sour fruits of that calamitous war to the end is exactly the same factor which is going to exacerbate the situation and pave the road for further and more unbridgeable rifts.

The Arab-Israeli conflict is

another detrimental factor. There

may be a temptation to relegate this issue to a second degree

position because of the feeble

negotiating powers of the Arab side. Yet, the United States and Europe have made it clear that

this is the optimal time to resolve

this issue once and for all. The

Israeli side is adamant and the

road to peace is blocked.

We in Jordan believe that unless this particular conflict is justly resolved, the future shall be fraught with untold threats even without a military confrontation. The absence of peace and the threat of war would make it impossible to find solutions to chronic problems such as water and food shortages, foreign indebtedness, high military expenditures, poverty and environmental decadence. The peace dividend would be much greater for the whole world community than the current fragile truce. We need to race against time in order to diffuse the bombs of water, demography, famine and hopelessness.

There are no historical accidents. The recent Gulf crisis and War bad more to explain than mere border disputes or personal clashes. After seven major wars in the area since 1948, I think we all have learned our lessons the hard way. Europe and the Middle East can chart a fruitful path to the future, and the best time to begin that is now if not yesterday. Thank you and God bless you all.

Former agriculture minister to detail activity

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Alawneh will address a press conference in the Parliament building Sunday to present details about efforts during his mandate to promote agriculture in Jordan.

The former minister, who belongs to the Muslim Brotherhood Bloc in Parliament, is also expected to discuss the controversial question of allowing goats to graze in forests and pasture lands and measures taken by the ministry in this regard.

The controversy started after a decision taken a few months ago by Mr. Alawneh to open forest areas for goats to graze. Jordanian environment officials challenged the minister's decision and showed journalists the kind of damage freely grazing goats have caused to the environment.

The minister had said that goats were allowed to graze in forests provided forest were at least 15 years old. This, we had

said, would help rejuvenate the forest by helping prune the trees. Mr. Alawneh said that the droppings of the sheep and goats take care of the forest and the animals take care of eliminating the dry weeds which have caused many forest fires in Jordan.

The minister's views were challenged by officials from the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) who had raised an outcry over the decision to allow goats in to the forests.

Society President Anis Muasher said that the goats were bound to destroy most of the forest lands. He said that the RSCN was trying to conserve nature and protect the trees and animals from extinction "at a time when we realise that the forests cover only one percent of Jordan's area."

Mr. Muasher called the goats black locusts, capable of destroying the greenlands of Jordan.

IAEA inspects Iraqi plant

(Continued from page 11)

Committee.

New information, including U.S. intelligence reports and the revelations of an Iraqi nuclear scientist who "defected," led U.N. officials to conclude that Iraq had "several more" suspected nuclear sites than the 25 previously found, he said.

If it finds evidence of nuclear-related activity at additional sites not reported by Iraq, the team's report could be damaging to Baghdad's efforts to persuade the U.N. Security Council to lift an economic blockade on the country. Western officials have accused Iraq of being untruthful in supplying details on its nuclear and chemical weapons facilities.

Foreign Minister Hussein told the Iraqi News Agency (INA) the IAEA team wanted to visit the country at a "completely inappropriate time" — the feast of Eid Al Adha — and had asked to visit military installations not under the control of the Iraqi Nuclear Energy Organisation.

The IAEA had advised the team to postpone the visit until after the holiday. When they insisted on coming, he interrupted his leave to receive them, he said.

During the meeting they asked to visit a site near Baghdad, which was found to be a military position within a military area which includes many positions affiliated with the defence ministry, not the Iraqi Nuclear Energy Organisation.

"We did our best to obtain the military authorities' consent for the team's visit... when the team went, it asked to visit other sites within the same military area. The officer in charge did not approve the visit because he had not received instructions from his superiors. This is normal procedure the world over," Mr. Hussein said.

According to Mohammad Al Qabbani, the association's president, the festival was designed to display the good standard of the Jordanian artists and their work under various circumstances.

Referring to the festival's programmes, he said that it includes five plays besides two plays from the University of Jordan and one from the Jordan University of Science and Technology.

Mr. Qabbani said that a cultural exhibition, depicting Jordan's theatrical activity, would be opened at the Royal Cultural Centre where the festival is held.

ities have dealt promptly with all of the teams visiting Iraq," he added.

U.N. teams visiting Iraq to monitor compliance with U.N. resolutions have previously said the Iraqis were cooperating.

IAEA Director General Hans Blix has sent a report on the affair to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The United States said on Tuesday Iraq should be forced to pay a minimum of 30 per cent of its oil revenues as reparations to victims of the Gulf crisis and war.

"We believe an actual percentage of 30 per cent is the minimum level to ensure there will be sufficient resources available to begin the claims process, especially for the hundreds of thousands of people with small claims against Iraq," said State Department spokeswoman Marlene Turtwiler.

Ms. Turtwiler said Washington had originally pressed for a 50 per cent ceiling but had deferred to the opinion of a majority of its allies who favoured a 30 per cent figure.

She said there appeared to be considerable support for the United States' new position that 30 per cent should be the actual proportion of its oil income Iraq would pay into a compensation fund.

The Security Council resolution which laid down the procedure for the establishment of the fund said the proportion of Iraqi oil revenues to be levied for reparations could be adjusted below the agreed ceiling to take account of changes in market conditions.

"We believe the majority of members now are on 30 per cent for the actual level for this compensation," Ms. Turtwiler said.

Under the resolution setting terms for a permanent ceasefire, Iraq would be permitted to sell oil again once its weapons of mass destruction were scrapped.

The actual percentage Iraq will pay will be set later by the U.N. compensation commission's governing council in Geneva, made up of all 15 states of the Security Council.

Phone links between Jordan, Kuwait facilitated by Satellite

AMMAN (J.T.) — Telephone links between Jordan and Kuwait are now almost completely restored thanks to a number of international telephone exchange systems which set up temporary satellite stations in Kuwait to facilitate direct connections.

Telecommunications Corporation (T.C.C.) Director General Mohammad Shahid Ismail said that Jordanians could make direct telephone calls with subscribers in Kuwait through the new facilities.

Telephone links were partially restored between the two countries earlier last month, but callers had to channel their calls through the central telephone exchange in Amman.

According to Mr. Ismail, certain parts of Kuwait remain disconnected from the direct international dialing system. To avoid congestion, Mr. Ismail said, Jordanians are advised to make their calls between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. or between midnight and 7 a.m..

600,000 Iraqis return home

(Continued from page 1)

British Prime Minister John Major told parliament earlier that British forces would remain inside Iraq until Kurdish security was assured.

Mr. Major said U.S. troops

would also stay in the region but not in northern Iraq.

He said no decision had been made on whether the coalition force would be in Turkey near northern Iraq.

Defence Department spokesman Pete Williams, going a step beyond earlier U.S. statements, said he believed the coalition allies want to put a small rapid deployment force that would be ready to take combat action if necessary.

He said the force would clearly have combat power and said its purpose "would be to stand by in the area in case there were problems in northern Iraq that required the military action."

AMURT sends relief aid to Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — AMURT (Anada Marga Universal Relief Team), a global humanitarian organisation, has been sending relief material such as milk powder, baby food, medicines, rice, sugar, flour, cooking oil. Since February 1991 four convoy of trucks have been sent to Iraq by AMURT, Dada Ramanada Avadhuta director general of AMURT, who was in Iraq for several weeks has decided to continue its relief supply to the suffering people in Iraq.

AMURT has surveyed and visited Basra, Najaf, Karbala, Baghdad, and decided to help in rebuilding Karbala Hospital with the help of other likeminded organisations as early as possible. The approximate cost of rebuilding Karbala Hospital will be \$3.5 million.

AMURT has been doing relief work in Zakho for Kurdish refugees; 15 dedicated workers have been engaged to help the Kurdish refugees; five schools have been opened for their children in Zakho by AMURT.

AMURT has many development programmes for the underprivileged Jordaniens. It has decided to start a children's school (for orphans), free medical dispensary, home for retired personnel and aged people in Jordan.</p

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History and the West: Feed and starve at will?

THE LATEST story about Iraqi trade with Jordan and the fuss about it that has been kicked up by certain British media organs puts forward a fundamental question: How far is the West prepared to pursue the sanctions against the Iraqi people presumably to force President Saddam Hussein out of power?

We are bewildered by a media that from time to time publishes detailed accounts of just how much the Iraqi people suffer under the brutal regime of international sanctions imposed still against them and occasional reports about sanction-hunting, whether by Jordan or anybody else.

We cannot understand how the same West scrambles to the aid of one portion of the Iraqi people, in this case the Kurds, while the rest of the population is suffering malnutrition, a high infant mortality rate, diseases and shortages in all the basic services needed by an urban society. How can the "civilised world" talk about abuse of human rights under the Iraqi regime while it brutalises the Iraqi people under the so-called "new world order" regime? Are we going to see the U.S., when its interests so require, go oppressing other nations if they did not succumb to the will of its mighty power or Britain pursuing the same kind of policy just because the British prime minister in office needs to have an enemy until his campaign for re-election is over?

What is indeed shameful is to see the Western media, the self-appointed champion of human rights, go about fabricating stories about sanction-hunting while they should be really doing is ridicule the sanctions and unveil their disastrous impact on the Iraqi people. Is it not ironic that the Western media is bewildered by the fact that there is so much hatred for and resentment of the West in the Arab, Muslim and Third worlds.

Well, we know now that the West, with all its intelligence services, vibrant media and think tanks, is fully informed of ill-deeds. We know that, like Rome before it and like 19th century Great Britain, the West is blinded by its material wealth, military power, advanced technology, self-righteousness and sense of superiority. Cynical attitudes in the West towards all world issues of war and peace, trade, economy, the environment, tolerance of other religions and tolerance of other peoples' ways of life are not easy to understand. They advocate one thing and put into practice yet another.

The West needs to understand that Rome, despite its material wealth, military power, self-righteousness, and superiority was defeated by the same hordes of peoples that it oppressed though those peoples lacked all of Rome's fabulous characteristics. Maybe history does not repeat itself, but many people think it does, and more and more people are reading history anew. Would the West, the Western media in particular, do the same?

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily Wednesday launched a bitter attack on the Western countries in general and the United States in particular for their behaviour towards Third World nations, particularly with regard to the Palestinians and their plight in Kuwait and Palestine. The United States and its allies maintain an embargo on Iraq in the name of democracy and human right and keep a closed eye with regard to the Palestinians and other nations undergoing inhuman practices and repression in Kuwait and the atrocities committed by Israel in the occupied Arab lands, the paper said. Throughout history, the Western nations have backed totalitarian regimes and dictatorships which served Western countries' interests at the expense of the Third World masses, said the paper. The Western countries which continue to brag about democracy and human rights are allowing the Palestinians to be massacred in Kuwait and Palestine without lifting a finger in the defence of their cause, the paper continued. This is being done at a time when the Western nations continue to claim that they seek to establish the rights of the Kurds in northern Iraq and to open the way for democracy in the Third World nations, the paper added. For the past 10 months, the U.N. Security Council has been holding meetings and issuing resolutions against Iraq and the Arab Nation at large in a clear exercise of racist policies directed against the Arab and Muslim people, while nothing has been said about ending Israel's occupation of Palestinian land, the paper noted. No one would ever believe the big Western lie that the colonialist powers aim at ensuring the rights of the oppressed people; and Western countries should not ever dream of transforming the Arabs into a race of the new red Indians because this nation will never perish.

Al Dastour for its part discussed Israel's fresh campaign directed against a Middle East peace conference. The Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy has renewed his campaign against such conference by describing it as a farce that can achieve nothing, the paper noted. It said that Levy's campaign comes at a time when the Israeli government was doing all in its power to place obstacles in the path of such conference by pursuing its settlement policies and ignoring all diplomatic efforts to establish durable peace. The paper questioned the real intentions of the United States and Washington's real position with regard to Israel's intransigence, and reminded its readers that it was Washington that initiated the latest bid for a peace conference. The paper said that the Israeli campaign against the peace conference was designed to abort any effort aimed to bring about peace to the region, which prompts us to believe that the time has come for the whole question to be returned to the U.N. Security Council which issued resolutions to bring about an end to Israel's occupation of the Arab land. The paper said that the Security Council should undertake proper steps that would help implement the requirements for a permanent peace.

Two states, one Holy Land: A framework for peace

By John V. Whitbeck

AS U.S. Secretary of State James Baker crisscrosses the Middle East, trying to exploit his president's perceived "window of opportunity" for Israeli-Palestinian peace, eyes appear firmly fixed on matters of procedure rather than substance. Neither Americans nor Israelis nor Palestinians have publicly proposed any fresh ideas as to how, substantively, such a peace could be structured. If fresh ideas are not proposed soon, the "window of opportunity" will slam shut.

It should by now be clear that the long-running policy of "tiny steps," focusing on procedural details and leaving the ultimate destination unclear, has not advanced Israelis and Palestinians one inch closer to peace. One can haggle forever over procedural details if there is no real prospect of common ground to lure the parties to the negotiating table. The time has surely come to at least try a compelling substantive vision of how peace could be structured so as to serve the needs and interests of both sides. If such a vision failed to inspire, one could always return to "tiny steps."

Contrary to common wisdom, sharing the Holy Land is not a zero-sum game, in which any development advantageous to one side must be disadvantageous to the other. One can envisage a society in which, by severing political and voting rights from economic and social rights in a negotiated settlement, both the legitimate national aspirations of Palestinians and the legitimate security interests of Israelis could be simultaneously satisfied.

The non-negotiable minimum for both Israelis and Palestinians is their own self-determination as people and nations, that they can have a state of their own in the land that both love and that never again will anyone else govern them. This is not impossible. The Holy Land could be a single economic and social unit encompassing two sovereign states and one Holy City. Jerusalem could form an undivided part of both states, be the capital of both states and be administered by an autonomous, elected municipal council.

Citizenship and borders

All current residents of the Holy Land could be given the choice of Israeli or Palestinian citizenship, thus determining which state's elections they would vote in and which state's passport they would carry, and each state could have its own "law of return," conferring citizenship on persons not currently resident in the Holy Land.

Borders would have to be drawn on maps but would not have to exist on the ground. The free, non-discriminatory movement of people and products

within the Holy Land could be a fundamental principle, subject only to one major exception: to ensure that each state would always maintain its national character, the right of residence in each Holy Land state could be limited to that state's citizens and to citizens of the other state residing there on an agreed future date and to their descendants.

As an essential counterpart to the absence of border controls within the Holy Land, Israel could retain the right to participate in immigration controls at the frontiers of the Palestinian state, with penalties for any visitor restricted to the Palestinian state and found in Israel. To ease Israeli security concerns, the Palestinian state could be fully demilitarised, with only local police forces and United Nations peace-keeping forces allowed to bear arms. The settlement agreement could be guaranteed by the United Nations and relevant states, with international tribunals to arbitrate disputes regarding compliance with its terms.

As a joint capital, Jerusalem could have Israeli government offices principally in its western

sector. Palestinian government offices principally in its eastern sector and municipal offices in both. To the extent that either state wished to control persons or goods passing into it from the other state, this could be done at the points of exit from, rather than the points of entry to, Jerusalem. In a context of peace, particularly one coupled with economic union, the need for such controls would be minimal.

The status of Jerusalem poses the toughest problem for any settlement plan, causing many to assume that no settlement acceptable to both sides can ever be reached. When the U.N. General Assembly adopted Resolution 181 in 1947, it addressed the problem by suggesting an international status for Jerusalem, with neither the Jewish nor the Arab state having sovereignty over the city. Yet joint undivided sovereignty, while rare, is not without precedent.

Chandigarh is the capital of two Indian states. Until German reunification, the western sectors of Berlin, under American, British and French sovereignty, were jointly administered by an autonomous, elected Senate. For more than 70 years, the Pacific state of Vanuatu (formerly the New Hebrides) was under joint sovereignty of Britain and France.

As a joint capital, Jerusalem could have Israeli government offices principally in its western

sector. Palestinian government offices principally in its eastern sector and municipal offices in both. To the extent that either state wished to control persons or goods passing into it from the other state, this could be done at the points of exit from, rather than the points of entry to, Jerusalem. In a context of peace, particularly one coupled with economic union, the need for such controls would be minimal.

In a sense, Jerusalem can be viewed as a cake which could be sliced either vertically or horizontally. Either way, the Palestinians would get half the cake, but, while Israel could never voluntarily swallow a vertical slice, they might just be able to swallow a horizontal slice. (Indeed, by doing so, Israel would finally achieve international recognition of Jerusalem as its capital). A capital city is both a municipality on the ground and a symbol of reconciliation and hope for Jews, Muslims, Christians and the world as a whole.

Advantages for both sides

Such a framework would address in ways advantageous to both sides the three principal practical problems on the road to peace — Jerusalem (through joint sovereignty over an undivided city), settlers (through a separation of citizenship rights from residential rights in a regime of free access to the entire Holy Land for all citizens of both states under which no one would be compelled to move) and borders (through a structure of relations between the two states so open that the precise placement of borders would no longer be such a contentious issue and the pre-1967 borders — subject only to the expanded borders of Jerusalem, under joint sovereignty — might well be acceptable to most Israelis, as they would certainly be to most Palestinians).

For Israelis, the threat of one day living in a state with a majority of Arab voters or an inescapable resemblance to pre-1990 South Africa would be replaced by the assurance of living in a democratic state with fewer Arab

voters than today. The Israeli's security would be enhanced by assuaging, rather than continuing to aggravate, the Palestinians' grievances. By escaping from the role (so tragic in light of Jewish history) of oppressors and enforcers of injustice, Israel would save its soul and its dream.

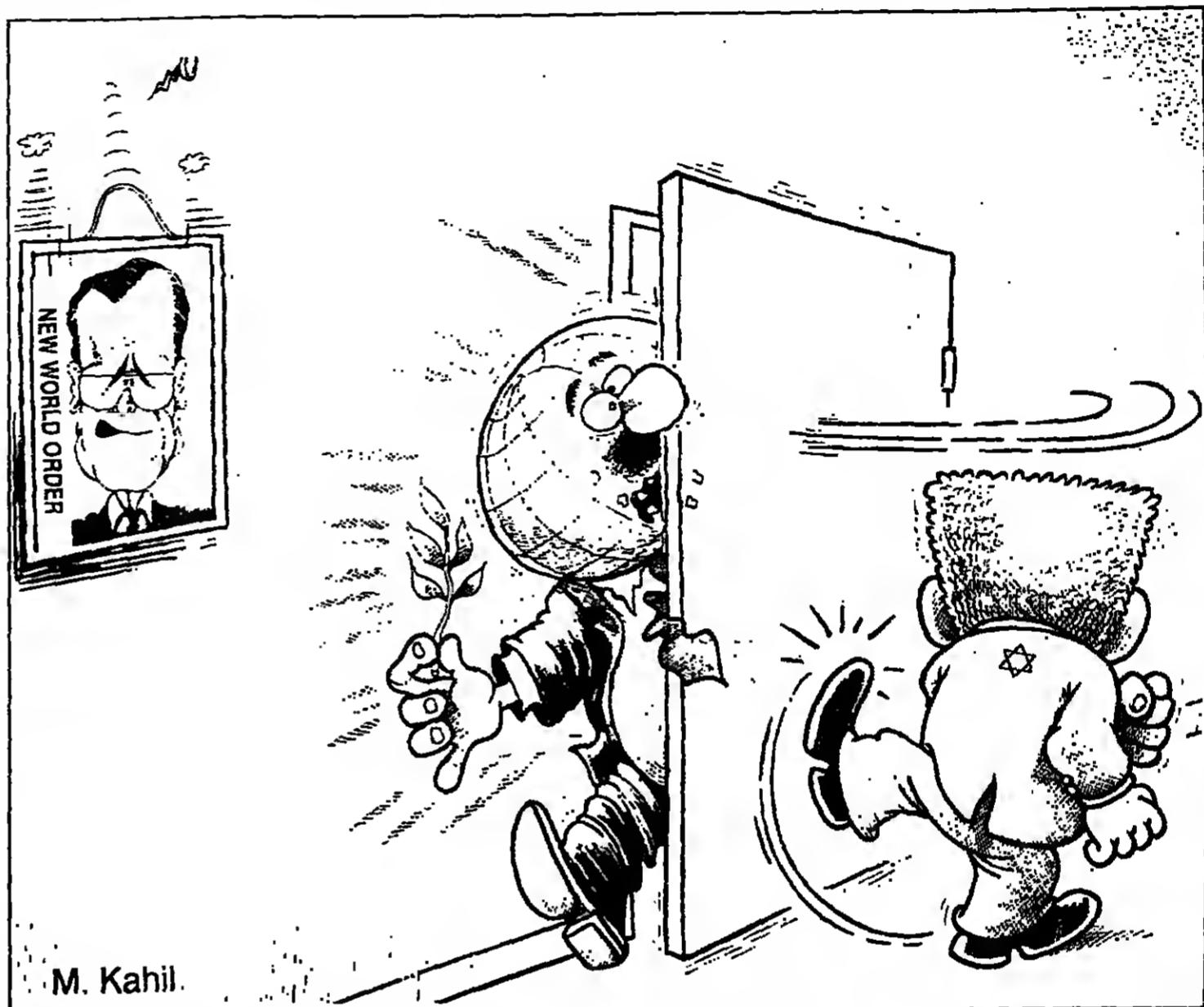
For all Palestinians, human dignity would be restored. They would cease to be a people treated (and not only by Israelis) as pariahs, uniquely unworthy of basic human rights. For those in exile, an internationally accepted Palestinian nationality, a Palestinian passport and a right to return, if only to visit, would have enormous significance. And if the Palestinians themselves accepted a settlement, few Arab states would continue to reject Israel. If a Palestinian flag were peacefully raised over Palestinian government offices in Jerusalem, few Arab eyes would still see Israel through a veil of hatred.

Transformation required

Acceptance, and implementation of such framework for peace would require a moral spiritual and psychological transformation from both Israelis and Palestinians. Yet, given the decades of hatred, bitterness and distrust, any settlement would require such a transformation. Precisely because such a transformation would be so difficult, it is far more likely to be achieved if both peoples can be inspired by a truly compelling vision of a new society of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect and human dignity, in which both peoples are winners, than if they are left to contemplate painful programmes for a new partition and an angry separation in which both peoples must regard themselves, to a considerable degree, as admitting defeat.

Every effort must now be made to ensure that all the human and material waste of the Gulf war really does produce peace in the Middle East and not just a lull in the hostilities. Israelis, Palestinians and the true friends of both must join the search for a compelling vision of a society so much better than the status quo that both Israelis and Palestinians are inspired to accept in their hearts and minds that peace is both desirable and attainable; that Holy Land can be shared, that a winner-take-all approach produces only losers, that both Israelis and Palestinians must be winners or both will continue to be losers and that there is a common destination at which both peoples would be satisfied to arrive and to live together.

John V. Whitbeck is an international lawyer working in Paris. The article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.



Cliche, prejudice cloud Western media's perception of Islam

By Carla Power

ON facing pages of the Jan. 5 issue of *The Economist* were two separate editorials, the first on the imminence of the Gulf war, the second on the Rushdie affair. Though a coincidence that they shared the page, it was telling that the two pieces — articles on the most spectacular examples of the rift between the Muslim and Arab worlds and the West in recent years — also shared a symmetry in logic. Both based their arguments on the sanctity of Western values and institutions.

"Iraq's invasion of Kuwait was simple theft, for which Resolution 660 sets out a simple remedy: complete withdrawal, without conditions." — *Linking the Un-linkable*.

"Yet religious belief has something to teach the rational secular world: some principles should be defended without recourse to a blury halfway house. The law should be the answer." — *Towards the Next Rushdie*.

The surgical logic of the first writer presupposes the sanctity of national boundaries and the United Nations. The author of the second quotation, who initially acknowledges the discourse of religious beliefs, refutes it a line later. Instead, a single set of "principles" are endorsed: "rational," "secular," and presumably "Western." So much for listening to religious belief.

During the Rushdie affair, the West's outrage at Islamic fundamentalism was framed within the context of many of its own "fundamental" beliefs: of fiction as a well-wrought urn, protected from criticism outside the literary arena; of the supreme authority of the nation state over any other sort of social organisation, like the worldwide Muslim community, the *ummah*; of the importance

of the individual and his or her right to free speech. The Rushdie affair served to throw the universality of secular Western liberal values into question. It showed that these very values stood in contrast to a different view of the world, one which proclaimed just how little the sanctity of other concepts.

And then came Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait, with the ensuing debate early familiar in its two separate discourses: that of the impermeability of national borders and the opinion of the "international community," and that of *jihad* and the community of Muslims and Arabs. It is in the allies' interests to shelter arguments for the war within the moral framework of territorial boundaries, of the American-dominated U.N., of human rights atrocities, and events after Aug. 2. By contrast, it is in Saddam Hussein's interest, with the ensuing debate early familiar in its two separate discourses: that of the impermeability of national borders and the opinion of the "international community," and that of *jihad* and the community of Muslims and Arabs. It is in the allies' interests to shelter arguments for the war within the moral framework of territorial boundaries, of the American-dominated U.N., of

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que du Salut on Jan. 15, the government banned all but a few permanent correspondents from the country, blaming the expulsions on the international media's "provocation, manipulation and disinformation." *The Independent* of Jan. 19 carried no mention of the protest, though there was a piece on anti-war demonstrations by Muslims in Niger, Nigeria, the Philippines, northern Sumatra, Malaysia, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

Nonetheless, there has been little discussion of the Islamic issues and reactions in the British media during the past six months. *The Clever Magazine Index* lists British newspaper articles by headline for the period

"We are now paying the price for the obsessions of the Khomeini years, in that we have no conception of Iran in diplomatic terms. After the demonisation of Khomeini, Islam was linked with the notion of fanaticism, with incomprehensibility. Once something is deemed incomprehensible, you can't think about it, you can only image it."

Karachi, Pakistan had seen at least 50 demonstrations.

A similar burial of news occurred in *The Guardian* when the Saudi *al-ahram* supported the king by allowing foreign troops on Saudi soil. Though a former article had noted the importance of such a "controversial decision," the final coverage was a six-line blurb in a page 6 column called "Crisis Roundup."

Yet even when coverage of the gulf war does include more extensive discussions of transnational or religious factors, the tone can be dismissive, the writer misinformed. The *Times Index* lists three articles under the heading "Islam" between July and December; only one was related to the edge of the Khomeini period, when everything was viewed in

extremes of Islam." He sees two extremes in reactions to Islam among the Western media and its readers: "People know that there is this thing called 'Islam,' a unified force that thunders through history, or else they see it as diffuse and full of multiplicities."

Accordingly, he notes, Hussein's call for *jihad* prompted confused reactions in the West. "On the one hand, it's a classically emotive word, which for many people did call forth the Oriental, exotic notion of war in the barbaric, medieval sense... On the other... people are equally likely to say it's nothing more than a political slogan."

Nothing the new diplomatic importance of Iran, Gilsenan suggests how difficult it is for Western diplomats to cast an Islamic regime in a diplomatic role: "We are now paying the price for the obsessions of the Khomeini years, in that we have no conception of Iran in diplomatic terms. After the demonisation of Khomeini, Islam was linked with the notion of fanaticism, with incomprehensibility. Once something is deemed incomprehensible, you can't think about it, you can only image it."

The invasion of Kuwait, like the future surrounding *The Satanic Verses*, has prompted numerous discussions of Western "principles." But neither the cause of borders nor literature should be sacrificed if it blots out our ability to hear (to borrow a phrase from Mr. Rushdie) "voices talking about everything in every possible way." The silencing of discourses in a war may not make headlines. The penalties for ignoring them eventually will.

Carla Power is a graduate student at St. Antony's College, Oxford, studying the modern Middle East. The article is reprinted from the London-based *Index on Censorship*.

Weekender

3 artists display different styles at Shoman Foundation

Optimism, joy emanate from contemporary art

By Ica Wahbeh

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation plays host to yet another art exhibition by three artists of different nationalities and artistic approach. They are Jordan's Mohammad Al Jaloos, Egypt's Rifaq Razzaz and Lebanon's Shouqi Shoukini.

Jaloos's exhibits, mostly acrylic and pencil on paper, but also a few gouaches, are

different from his earlier works — mostly figurative paintings — in that they are abstract representations, inspired, according to the artist, by the computer screen. It is actually a freeze-like figure, repeated for a few times in slightly different positions, to give the impression of movement, animation.

The predominant colour is purple, illuminated, mostly in the centre, by bright, white spots.

From the abstract, almost

cubist images, one could make out, here and there, faces or even a torso. One interesting group — four almost identical drawings — is collage work that gives even more dynamics to the already animated paintings.

In Ruzzaz's oils the colours are subdued, the subjects are very much reminding of naive art. Most canvases are big in size, giving out a feeling of optimism.

One big painting seems to have as a theme the world as a circus. An Atlas-like figure takes the centre (he could also be a performer bowing

to the audience) while the side figures are those of joggers, acrobats, columns — a dream world, with not much logic, with vanishing colours at the edges — a work that keeps you looking at it for a long time, trying to find symbols, meanings, senses.

Another work depicts something one could easily describe as a world village. A multitude of people (the same naive style pervades) has the hands raised up to the sky in an expression of joy, jubilation. The colours are bright, basic.

Contrasting, there is a

mosaic-like painting, a composition of human and animal figures, flowing from one another in a never ending line.

One canvas, made up of six superimposed bands, has human figures, or rather contours, represented in different stages (historical, social), from oppressed — bent backs, bowed heads — to awakening — wide open eyes — and culminating with triumphant, victorious postures — hands raised, movements freed from servitude, full of life.

The Egyptian origin is present in representations of pyramids, hieroglyphs, friezes, like the ones depicting daily life in ancient Egypt.

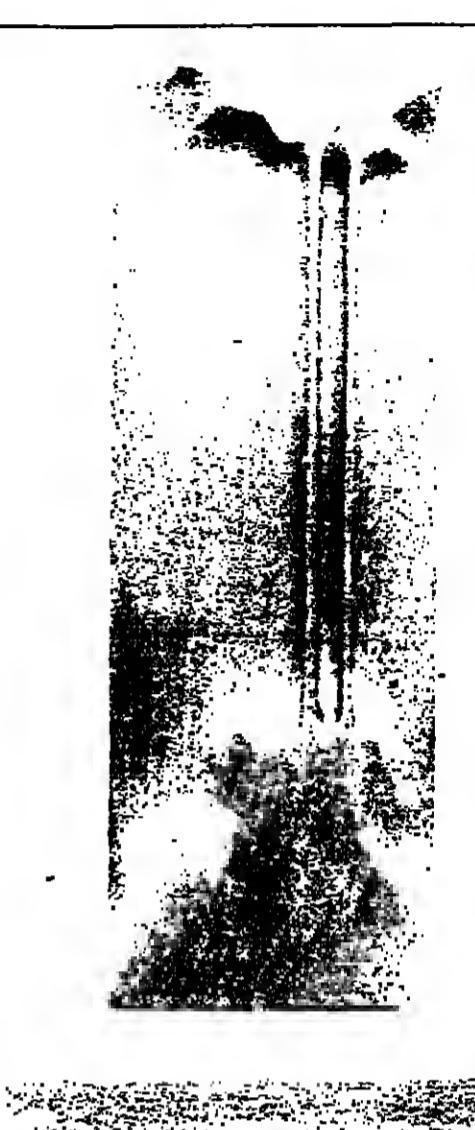
Shoukini's exhibits are paintings and a few sculptures. One group of water colours is that of abstract "agglomerated" units, made up of geometrical figures — squares, rectangles, cubes — painted in transparent, superimposing colours.

One group of three crayon drawings has the same right angle figures, while the rest is painted in bright colours,

representing nature. It is not the wild, unattended to nature, but the work of man: Planted fields (with crops half harvested), mild sloped hills covered by trees and clusters of villages, in the depressions or valleys of the hills, surrounded, once again, by planted fields or orchards. The feeling this last group of water colours gives is one of peaceful, serene, undisturbed idyllic life. The sky is invariably of a bright, clear blue. No clouds disturb the peace that emanates from the canvas. Land seems fertile, generous, bountiful. Life is present even where no human figure is present to animate the paints.

The sculptures, done in wood or stone, are abstract, stylised figures, like that of a fragile stem opening up into square and rectangular shapes, or that of a symbolic bridge carved in wood or of a wheel-circle, in stone, symbolising eternal life or the universe.

The works exhibited are for sale with price tags ranging between JD 120 and JD 400. The exhibition will continue until July 11.



One of the sculptures by Lebanese artist Shouqi Shoukini on display at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.



Two artworks by Jordanian artist Mohammad Al Jaloos on display at the exhibition.

Remembering Ingi

By Katia Sabet

CAIRO (WNL) — Two years after her death, Ingi Efflatoun, the woman who became one of Egypt's greatest modern painters, is to have a museum built to house her works. The site chosen, a two-acre plot on the Fostat plain in the southwest suburbs of the capital, will bring some of her best paintings under one roof for the first time. The Ministry of Culture's decision to fund the building is formal recognition of Efflatoun's importance as an artist. But some have also seen it as making amends for the harsh treatment meted out to her by a previous government irritated by her campaigns for social justice and which once sentenced her to four years in jail.

Outside her immediate friends and family, Efflatoun the woman is little known. When she was alive, she gave a great many interviews, but she never talked about herself, only about her art and her interest in politics and social problems. Today, her elder sister, the writer Gulperry Efflatoun, has decided

to break the silence and reveal something of Ingi's real character to the public. Gulperry, who at 71 is four years older than Ingi would have been, has taken it upon herself to trace some of the hundreds of works scattered in private collections and museums throughout the world and to catalog and write a book on them.

Gulperry Efflatoun's memories go right back to when the two sisters were very small, and used to play at the home of their grandfather, who was also artistically inclined. "Our grandfather was a charming man, and we adored him," she said. "She had been a government minister on several occasions, but he detested politics. He much preferred painting. He much preferred the arts and literature, and every time they summoned him to take up a government post, he did his best to give his resignation as soon as he possibly could, so he could hurry back to his book and his music."

Gulperry is a slim, elegant woman, who smokes a great deal and uses her hands as she talks. In her facial fea-

tures and expressions, there is an unmistakable similarity to the younger sister whose artistic success somewhat overshadowed Gulperry's career. But if there was any rivalry, it remains unspoken: Ingi inspired love, not envy.

"When I was small, I used to write poems and fairy tales," Gulperry said. "Ahmad Rassem, one of Egypt's great poets, who wrote in French, read one of my verses and encouraged me to carry on, advising me to read as much as possible. You will never have any style of your own until you have assimilated at least a hundred different other styles," he told me. I followed his advice to the letter and I took to reading fairy tales and short stories out loud to my sister, who was often ill in those days. They say that children who are sick grow up more quickly. In fact, Ingi, who was four years younger than I, rapidly grew to be taller, and very beautiful to her own artistic spirit.

"Then one day, Mahmoud Said came to visit us, and everything changed," recalled Gulperry. "Mahmoud Said, who died in 1964, was without doubt modern Egypt's greatest painter. It was to this maestro, who at the time was only 43, that we showed my sister's drawings and water colours. I remember how he looked for a long time at one of the drawings she had done for my fairy tales. I have completely forgotten the tale itself, but I remember the drawing perfectly. It showed a man, from the rear, climbing a mountain that was covered with snow. He was making for a cottage which had smoke coming out of the chimney. Finally, Mahmoud Said looked up and said: 'This child has painting in her blood. You must get her a teacher.'"

That was how Kamel el Telmissani came to enter the Efflatoun household. "He was a painter, as poor as a church mouse," said Gulperry. "His suit was too tight, all shiny from over use, and he kept a scarf permanently knotted around his neck, even in mid-summer. I suppose it was to hide the worn collar of his shirts. But that painter — what a character, and what a talent! He began by making Ingi read poems — by Alfred de Vigny and Lecomte de Lisle. Then he would ask her to paint what she had felt, the images that had come to her mind. Kamel el Telmissani was part of a group of fiercely independent artists in Egypt, who fought for freedom of expression, and against academic strictures; they also called for an end to all forms of foreign

One day, when Ingi was recovering from scarlet fever, someone gave her a box of water colour paints. And straight away, recalls her sister, she picked them up, and began painting the portrait of the family's secretary as though she had never done anything else in her life. The result was so brimming with life that everyone in the family immediately recognised the young girl had a special talent which should not be wasted.

"Overnight, my sister had found a means of expression



Efflatoun's works ran the gamut from her dark and tortured earliest paintings to her last canvases which were light and joyful.

dominance. At the time Egypt was under British control. These artists considered art, patriotism and human dignity to be values that were inextricably linked to one another."

Under El Telmissani's influence, Ingi soon found her stride, and perhaps also some of the ideals which were to become so important in her life. Finally unleashed, her artistic talent at first found expression in dark and anguished paintings. Her first two works, "The young girl and the monster" and "The young girl in the forest" are both strangely pessimistic. Ingi never wanted to part with them. They were displayed at a Cairo exhibition in 1940 and gained her fame in the capital's artistic circles: she was 16.

"It was at this stage that Ingi, alongside her artistic skills, began developing a very strong interest in the social and political problems of the country," said Gulperry. "To be honest, we had both been aware for some time of the enormous social injustices that existed all around us. When we left a party, or came out of the opera house, we couldn't fail to notice the little group that was always waiting for us

outside in the street — the blind, the paralysed, the handicapped."

At an age where ideals

matter above all else, Ingi began mixing with Egypt's left-wing intelligentsia. It is hard to say who exerted the strongest influence on her political ideas. Perhaps it was Kamel el Telmissani, or a professor of philosophy from the French school in Cairo. In any case, Ingi's two burning passions became painting and "the others," an expression she used to mean the poor, the weak, women, everyone who, she saw, was suffering and could not speak up. In those days the Communist Party was banned in Egypt, and the young artist knew full well she was risking a jail sentence every time she embarked on any social initiative or met with her new friends.

Ingi Efflatoun had a prodigious output during her long career. Hundreds of her paintings are scattered throughout the world. Some are in private hands. Others are owned by foreign museums. In Egypt they have found their way into official buildings in Cairo, in the Opera House, the presidential palace, the Palace of Congress and VIP lounge of the airport.

Spain's leading film actress: Rich girl makes good

By Eva Kaluzynska

The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — When Carmen Maura stepped onto the stage in Franco's Spain 20 years ago, her family disowned her.

"To decide to be an actress was like deciding to be a prostitute," says the star of Spain's new-wave cinema.

She was 25, a surgeon's daughter, a lawyer's wife. The family break-up cost her custody of her two children.

"The ten first years, nobody in the family saw me. It was a disaster," she told Reuters.

If they had not been so opposed, she would not have been so determined, said Maura, who has been named best actress in the European film awards twice in three years. "I am very proud of my fight."

Only when she became rich and famous did her family relent. She wryly remembers her mother asking her for an autograph for the neighbours.

Maura is in Brussels filming with Belgian director Marion Hansel. She plays a pregnant woman in a quasi-science-fiction tale of a protest against the state of the world by unborn babies.

Maura is best known for her work with Pedro Almodovar, Spain's premier avant-garde director. For him, she played a pill-popping housewife in "What Have I Done to Deserve This?", a transsexual in "Law of Desire" and a nun in "Dark Habits."

Their spectacular string of black comedy hits ended with the award-winning "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown" in 1987, when the dog parted company.

"Our relationship was very difficult and afterwards we decided to give it a rest. Everybody was on the verge of a nervous breakdown. The shooting was really not a party," she said.

Ingi Efflatoun had a prodigious output during her long career. Hundreds of her paintings are scattered throughout the world. Some are in private hands. Others are owned by foreign museums. In Egypt they have found their way into official buildings in Cairo, in the Opera House, the presidential palace, the Palace of Congress and VIP lounge of the airport.

former in a touring cabaret during the civil war, Carmen finds herself singing as her life depends on it — which it does.

Saura, best known for "Blood Wedding" and "Carmina," is regarded as Louis Bunuel's heir to the throne of Spanish cinema. Maura had her doubts about the part: "I was afraid, Carlos Saura, Madre Mia, because he's not exactly my kind of director."

The result surprised her. "Our relationship was wonderful."

Built like a teenage gymnast, Maura has a deep voice that is almost disconcerting from a frame so small.

She relishes her success in a man's world, playing strong roles for women. "Our power is our intelligence, our sense of humour. We are stronger than men, more prepared for pain, more practical."

Her success was hard won, with a decade in cabaret, dubbing TV, theatre in villages, and playing to drunks. "This is the best school," she says. "When you get to a theatre with a Sartre play, that's easy."

She did not recognise her house as a touring cabaret in "What Have I Done to Deserve This?" but playing a man who had undergone a sex change in "Law of Desire" was one of her biggest challenges.

Now a vivacious 45, Maura makes no attempt to hide her age from her fans. "I want them to know how old I am, I don't want to be young all my life."

She fears ill health, but cannot be bothered with keep-fit fads. She chain-smoked through our interview, and had bought a large mousse gateau at Brussels' best-known patisserie for the weekend.

Maura sees no shortage of good roles ahead and plans to spend her old age playing Cameo roles — because she wants to.

Her next project starts in Paris in June. She plays the queen of Spain in a film about the sun king, Louis XIV.

Maura says she is not lured by Hollywood while she has the pick of the best roles at home. "In the United States you need to fight a lot. It's not my moment to fight."



Hundreds of Ingi Efflatoun's paintings are scattered throughout the world in museums and private collections.

Exercising with mosquitoes

By Maha Addasi

I have just made a new discovery, and like most major findings it was all by chance. I discovered that you could get a decent workout by trying to kill a mosquito by swinging at it. If you consider increasing the workout you could use a magazine and graduate to something heavier like a volume of the encyclopaedia Britannica, or the unabridged Oxford English dictionary. Whatever is most painful to the mosquitoes would work, if you get my drift.

It is no secret that I detest mosquitoes with a passion and there is nothing I would like better than to see them suffer. All of them. This mean streak in me resurfaces each year around this time and nothing quenches this hatred better than spreading methods to kill them. Then it dawned on me that instead of just aimlessly 'clapping' a mosquito to death we should incorporate killing them into a workout regime, and at the same time make life for mosquitoes a misery.

For example, when you squish one you can use it to smear a threat message on the bedroom mirror for the others. But I have come to find out that this sort of thing does not bring immediate results so I have adopted a new tactic. I'd be pretending to read a book, but all the while I would watch the mosquitoes while taking precise notes of their quirky and idiosyncrasies. I would have the page I am supposedly reading dog-eared and I would wait till the stupid bug is within reach and start to swing at it with the book. (NB, you must alternate the book from one hand to the other or you will develop a muscle on one arm).

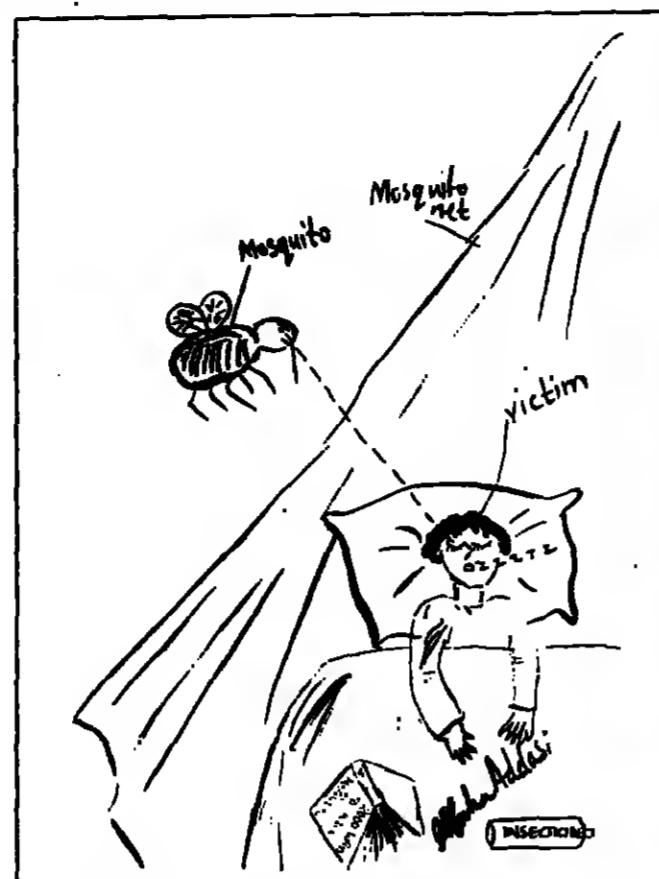
It usually does not take long for me to fly into a teeth-clenching rage and that soon develops into the "it's either me or the mosquito in the room stage." All I have to do is miss, and hear the humming near my ear again. This humming makes my skin crawl and sends the shivers down my spine. I just abhor mosquitoes. They really make me lose my cool. I simmer when I see one.

You might think that it would be easier to spray "them" with insecticide. Well I have and it did not work. I would spray and spray and spray, asphyxiate myself out of the room and the "super" mosquito, resistant to all insecticides known to man or woman, would be happily humming along. I could just scream.

I dream of lining up mosquitoes against a wall and shelling them to it. Or using bricks to smash them against a concrete sidewalk. I never thought I had this nasty side to me; but I also did not know that something that minute in size could make this fierce either.

Actually they are not so small after all, especially when you see them when they have fed themselves well. They fly about the size of very small bats staggering under their own weight like their "engines" are going to give up on them any second "hurumph, tug tug eeeeeee, splat!" Don't I wish.

Eventually I ditch the book and go after the 'not so stupid after all' bugs' with a fly swat and I swish, swoosh, stamp, swipe, and bang at them with a vengeance. I want to know where they learn their flight tactics. I suspect they meet near those little devices with the little mats. which



when plugged into electricity gives off a poisonous vapour that is supposed to kill bugs that are attracted to the red light on that device. The light sure does attract mosquitoes but not to kill them. It becomes like a mosquito joint, where bugs go and meet each other, have fun and learn how to hum near a "victim's" ears while others are nourishing themselves on the most conspicuous areas on the "victim's" body in straight lines. I think that the mosquitoes you find dead near such devices are already dead when they get there. I think that other mosquitoes scrape dead mosquitoes which you killed off your books and place them near that insect-killing device so that you "think" the device is doing a good job. This discovery does not help matters any. I still want to kill the mosquitoes. Yeah. And there is nothing I like better than to see them suffer except to hear them suffer. I want to hear them suffer, seeing that they are here for good.

A friend told me that if you squashed a mosquito in your hand (disgusting, but I would do almost anything to get rid of those bugs), you could hear the mosquito scream. If that is true, I want to get it on tape. Then I want to get special amplifiers and equipment to hear that "au secour" slowly. Then when I've had enough I would use that tape as appropriate background music for the new exercise regime. What an incentive that would be.



As well as holding classes in English, the Community Language Centre provides friendship, support and baby-sitting services for foreign-speaking immigrants in London.

A helping hand in London's inner city

By Max de Lotbiniere

LONDON (WNL) — "They usually present you with a piece of paper," says Naomi Hughes. "There are masses of bits of paper." Hughes has the title of development worker at the Community Language Centre (CLC), a unique learning resource and contact point for new arrivals in the United Kingdom. The bits of paper that she refers to are sometimes the only means by which her "clients," most still mastering basic English, are able to communicate their problems and anxieties.

Quite often it is a document from the Home Office, probably written in baffling bureaucratic English but crucial to the bearer's future — be it she or he could be a refugee or asylum seeker and might need to attend an interview.

Or the paper might be from the local social services office and spell out, again in mystifying jargon, the difference between one-room hotel accommodation and a temporary council flat for a mother with young children.

Or it might simply be a medical prescription. But for someone whose first language is not English and who has only just arrived in England, how to get that prescription filled?

Having to face challenges like these alone is a daunting prospect for a newcomer. Add to that the isolation felt by many migrant workers and refugees, many of whom depend on the local social services for accommodation and a subsistence allowance, and one can begin to appreciate the unique support provided by the CLC. Part English-language teaching centre, part vocational centre and part social centre, the CLC and its staff provide a wide range of services and escape easy definition. Hughes and one other are part-time salaried staff; the rest are provided by the local educational and social services.

From its inception 17 years ago as a project to provide English lessons to women who could not go out to classes, the centre has evolved into an organisation that meets the needs of a special community. The CLC is housed in the crypt of the imposing Victorian St. Jude's church, located five minutes' walk from Earls Court Road in a typical west London square surrounded by once-grand houses. The relationship between the CLC and the church is strictly business, as Nancy Thomas, who chairs the management committee, points out.

As Hughes explains, although local education authorities provide high-quality courses in English as a second language (ESL), the CLC offers something more. "A lot of clients prefer our classes because they are friendlier. We have the creche here — in general, there are very few creche places for our type

of clients — and they always know there is someone to talk to. It is a kind of refuge."

Most of the newcomers in London who are just beginning to learn English share the sense of isolation that comes from not being able to communicate and having to adjust to an alien culture. The CLC's clients come from more than 30 countries, and although some are from Europe, most are experiencing a totally new kind of lifestyle. For the refugees, many of whom have fled wars in Somalia or Ethiopia, there is the added burden of worry about family members left behind and their own uncertain future in the U.K.

By talking and listening and taking time to overcome the difficulties of language, Hughes and her colleagues can help, through counselling, to deal with the mental anguish from which many suffer.

But it is also the CLC's aim to get the clients to help each other, to make friends and develop a sense of belonging. Marta, a student from Poland, was widowed just two months after arriving in London and was supported by her fellow students. "When I had a breakdown," she says, still a little unsure of her English, "they helped me to repair. Everyone helped me to get my balance. The centre prepares people for living in this country," she explains from experience. "It teaches about reality — the things that everybody needs." The list of courses offered includes computer classes, women's health, self-defence, crafts, and exercise.

In Marta's computer course is Mikhail, a young man from Moscow who, like the rest of the students, is eager to learn as much from the CLC as he can. "But we don't pay," he says with amazement. "We are not very rich, but we can come here for nothing and learn things that are very important." That includes, for Mikhail and the other students, impromptu lessons in British politics — an explanation of a political system that is totally new to students and some background to the names and faces that appear in the media. "We can ask our teacher anything," he says, then adds, "she is very patient."

The CLC's nursery enables many new immigrant mothers to attend the classes offered. Abrihet is a typical example. She arrived in London last fall with her daughter, 6, and son, 4, fleeing the war in Eritrea. "My husband is still in Eritrea, but we have no news of him," she explains with the help of another Eritrean refugee. Both express respect for the newcomers' resilience and their eagerness to learn and become part of the community as they emerge from the sad shadows of the past. "Once they get over their shyness and can tell us," says Thomas, "it is quite amazing how strong they are — it puts us to shame."

The leper, the bald man and the blind

By E. Yaghi

(Part II)

THE animals of each of the three healed men reproduced rapidly eventually making their owners extremely wealthy. After many camels, cows, sheep and years later, the angel reappeared in the same human form as he had first emerged. Things had certainly changed for the once three wretched men from Bani-Israel. Now the final stages of God's test would be implemented.

One sunny day in May when green carpeted the land and new born animals nestled near their warm fury mothers, the angel approached the leper who had greatly prospered in his absence. Although his hair was gray and he was much older, the leper's skin was still firm and beautiful. "Excuse me," the angel said. "I'm a poor man and I don't have any animal to travel on. You're the only man who can improve my fate. I beg you by the One who gave you your beautiful colour, skin and wealth to please give me a camel so that I may continue my journey!"

The leper's eyes grew hard as stone. He sneered at the looking angel, turned up his nose and with a curled lip said, "I can spare you nothing. Go away!"

But the angel remained steadfast and replied in a cool and angelic voice, "Haven't I seen you somewhere before? Aren't you the wretched bald man with the nasty boils whom people used to shun? Do you deny that you were once destitute and God blessed you with all this wealth? His hand gestured towards the herds of cattle."

Stubbornly the bald man insisted, "You are wrong, apparently insane! I inherited this wealth from my father, grandfather and forefathers. Money and cattle have been in my family for countless of years. I never saw you before as you suggest and if I had had a disease on my head as you say, I wouldn't have a head left by now! Does my beautiful hair look like a wig?" He broke into a cruel laugh and turned away with a snarl.

Dismayed, the angel departed saying, "If you are lying, I pray to God to return you to your former circumstances!"

One morning just as the sun was rising over the hills and woolly lambs breakfasted on green shrubs, the angel appeared to the blind man. Although by now the blind man had witnessed many a sunrise, he was still infatuated and stared in wonder as the sun inched its way above the dark horizon. "Praise God!" He said out loud. "I have so much to be thankful for. If I pray all day long, I can never thank God enough for the gift of sight!" No sooner had he spoken than he saw the angel.

The angel said, "I'm poor and travelling. I can't reach my destination except by God's help and yours. I ask you by the One who gave you your beautiful vision to give me a sheep so I can continue my journey!"

The blind man's face changed. Tears welled in his eyes. "My good man," he exclaimed, "I was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see! Take whatever you wish and keep what you wish. I swear I won't stop you taking whatever you want. Enough that I have seen the smile on an infant's face, glorious sunrises and sunsets, the morning dew on wild roses and yes, an angelic face such as yours! Look how many sheep I have!" He waved his hand in excitement at his flocks of sheep.

At last, an angelic smile lit the angel's face and he said, "Keep your wealth! I am in need of nothing. You were being tested by God. God is pleased with you and angry with the two others who desisted from God. Woe to them! May God bless you and increase your wealth!"

The blind man continued to prosper and for the rest of his life, enjoyed the simple beauties of nature. As for the other two men, only God knows what happened to them but surely they met their just rewards for they didn't appreciate God's many blessings, and in fact, denied all that God had done for them.

B.C.

hypo-critical



مكتبة الأصل

A starry-eyed first daughter goes international

By Jon Miller

MANILA, Philippines (WNL) — Kris Aquino's life often seems like something out of the movies — but not necessarily the sort of movies that have made her, at the age of 20, one of the Philippines' most popular stars. And certainly not the sort of movie that has drawn her to the Hong Kong studio of fantasy-slapstick king Raymond Wong and given her a shot — albeit a long shot — at the international big time.

Kris, daughter of President Corazon Aquino, will star opposite a dog in Wong's formula comedy "Magic to Win V," due for release in August. Wong, whose movies are dubbed in several languages and are distributed worldwide, has said that he was impressed with Kris's acting, her looks, and — surprise! — the fact that she is a president's daughter.

Although polls show President Aquino's popularity slipping steadily as she enters the final year of her term, the daughter's star is definitely on the rise. She was recently crowned Box Office Queen for top billing in last year's highest-grossing Filipino film. Her romantic interests (real or imagined) are constant grist for the country's gossip mill, and her on-set

accidents (she's had several) are front-page fare. Her weekly television show, a situation comedy aimed mostly at women and children, does consistently well.

The oval-faced college senior admits that the family name has helped. But she says that after five years in show business she feels she can take some credit herself. "I don't think I would have survived, or that people would still pay to watch my films, if I didn't have something to offer," she said as she rested between takes of a low-budget, pyrotechnic-filled action movie — the first action film of the four movies she has made. "Of course it's a big help to have a famous last name. I think that's the aim of most people — to have a name that would be instantly recognized. That's what people work so hard to get. But I think that I work just as hard as anybody else. In fact, in a lot of ways I have to work harder."

Her schedule — including full-time university studies, TV taping and shooting for movies — is indeed grueling. She admits she wants to push herself as hard as she can, to establish herself as a bona fide star before her mother leaves office. And if she can conquer Manila and Hong Kong, she reasons, can Hollywood be far behind?

Kris still lives with her

mother, a thoroughly untheatrical politician who has not tried to hide her lack of regard for the local entertainment industry. But Mrs. Aquino has resigned herself to her daughter's choice of careers. "My mom and I were talking about this," Kris reported, talking fast and sounding like any well-hired college coed. "She was saying, 'Ever since you were a kid you've taken all these classes' — I've had ballet, I've had guitar, I've had swimming, I've had tennis — name it and I've taken it — and she said, 'The only thing you're really stuck with is acting.' And she said, 'To think that you've cried so much over this, that you've had so much heartache. It really must be something you love.' And anyway," Kris added with a shrug, "my mom realises the value of my being popular. It brings us much closer to the masses."

Kris expects her popularity to be of use in the presidential elections set for next year. Mrs. Aquino has promised that she will not run, but her endorsement will be an important factor in the race, "I have an agreement with my mom," Kris said. "I told her, 'whoever you choose, you can rely on my campaigning.' I said, 'hopefully, whoever we support will be the one elected, or else I'm in big trouble!'"

Kris was born in 1971 into one of the country's richest and most powerful families. Her father, Benigno, was the chief political rival of Ferdinand Marcos, who ruled the Philippines from 1965 to 1986. Benigno Aquino was jailed on the day Marcos declared martial law in 1972. Kris, the youngest daughter, was protected by her mother.

Kris has plenty of detractors. She has been accused by critics of overacting and of treating her characters as caricatures. She has a reputation for getting tired and irritable on the set. Most people seem to acknowledge that her entry into show business — she had her first TV special when she was 15 — was rushed. For that, insiders blame the intensely competitive Filipino entertainment establishment, which churns out hot young stars almost as fast as it churns out insipid movies.

"My problem with her was that she went into the industry too soon," said one prominent film critic. "If she had taken acting lessons, even for just six months, she wouldn't have had to learn everything out there in front of everybody. Some of her first attempts at TV were embarrassing." The same critic expressed concern that Kris's highly publicised growing pains have compromised the dignity of the presidency.

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but her early childhood was hardly free from outside attention. "When I was 7 years old, during the first elections that were held during martial law, I gave more than 70 speeches in different rallies for my dad," she recalled. "So I was aware of how to deal with being in the public eye."

In 1980, Marcos left Benigno to go to the United States for medical treatment. The family left together, settling near Boston, where Kris attended fourth, fifth and sixth grades.

In August 1983, Benigno returned alone to Manila and was shot dead while disembarking from an aircraft at Manila's international airport. Kris was 12.

"I grew up for seven years previous to our leaving for the States with just my mom," she said. "So it really wasn't too much of an adjustment to lose my dad, because in essence I only had three good years with him. The rest of the time, we visited him three times a week in prison."

Corazon Aquino and her children returned to the Philippines a few days after her husband was killed. In 1986 Aquino ran for president against Marcos. Marcos declared himself the victor, but a popular uprising forced him to flee the country, thrusting the reluctant housewife into

the international limelight. Within a few months the irrepressible Kris was doing comedy routines on national TV.

Kris's audience is mostly middle and lower-middle class. She is especially popular with children. Her acting is in Pilipino, the national language, although she is equally comfortable in English, the language of the elite. She is not particularly beautiful, but she is fair-skinned, which is a big help in this pigment-conscious country. She is anything but sexy — indeed, her biggest gossip splash to date occurred when a leading man kissed her on the lips, on camera, against her wishes.

Kris says she fell in love with acting when she was 4, when a child star came to her family's huge sugar plantation to shoot a movie. She was active in school plays, but that was the extent of her experience when she landed on TV. Today her models are the American actresses Jody Foster and Julia Roberts — Foster for her intelligence and Roberts for her glamour.

She says she especially admires Foster's dedication to her craft. "She said something that really struck me," Kris remarked. "She said, 'I don't want to be Tom Cruise, I just want to work for ever.' I say, I want to be Tom Cruise and I want to work



Kris Aquino

forever!" While she admits she is in a hurry to establish herself before the winds of public opinion shift, she doesn't think people will forget about her when her mother leaves the scene next year. "I think I've built a solid foundation. I've done my best, and I don't see any reason for the audience to just disappear," she said. "I think you only go down if you let yourself go. If you don't take care of yourself, My advantage is that I won't do that. I come from a family of survivors."

theatres. "Hold Back The Dawn" was criticised by the Mexican government for its depiction of a seedy border town. "Kiss Me, Stupid," which featured Kim Novak as a prostitute, was condemned by the Roman Catholic Church's legion of decency.

Wilder's films suggest that the con artists of his father's hotel have taken over the world. In "Double Indemnity," Fred MacMurray and Barbara Stanwyck plot to murder her husband and pick up the insurance. Kirk Douglas stars in "Ace In The Hole" as a struggling journalist who keeps a man trapped in a cave so he can get the exclusive.



Sam Shepard

though he claims to be contemptuous of "issues." What was the "something deeper" that had inspired the play? "It may be that Jesse, his son, is now old enough to be drafted in a war," was the reply.

War has become a family matter to Shepard. He has been a rebellious son, now he is a rebellious father. The old cowboy outsider has become an insider. The crazed father in his play, a symbol of what has happened to the machismo side of the U.S., wants to know "how can we be so vicious" and still suffer the "terrible loss" of his son. It seems to be missing Shepard's point to accuse him of being merely a Rip Van Winkle of the sixties. At 47, the man who has often been described as a literary Gary Cooper has rejected this cowboy image for much more complex questions of identity in the nineties. — The Guardian

At 85, Billy Wilder still makes movies

By Hillel Italie
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The phone rings at Billy Wilder's office in California and the movie director himself answers. His voice is high and thin, laced with his clipped Viennese accent.

"Turning 85 means nothing," he said, speaking by telephone from his office in Beverly Hills, shortly before his birthday June 22. "I'm in good health. I feel the same as I did 20 years ago."

And then he has to go. Very important business. Call back in a few hours.

When he's finally available, he mentions that he has another motion picture under

way, in addition to a number of other projects.

He has an office, but no job. He's at an age when no major director has made a film. Wilder's last movie, "Buddy, Buddy," came out 10 years ago and his last big hit was "Irma La Douce" in 1963. I.A.L. Diamond, his writing partner since 1957, died three years ago.

But Hollywood's great cynic is an optimist, too: Optimistic that he can keep making movies.

The director, Samuel Wilder, was born on June 22, 1906, in Galicia, a section of

Poland then part of the Austria-Hungary empire, and he moved to Vienna eight years later. He received the nickname "Billy" because of his mother's fascination with Buffalo Bill.

His father, Max, had a variety of occupations: He owned a hotel where Wilder first encountered the card-sharps and pool hustlers who would so profoundly affect him.

"I learned many things about human nature, none of them favourable," he later said. But Wilder wasn't above that himself. He gam-

bled and stole tips from waiters, eventually receiving a beating and stern lecture from his father, on honesty.

He loved sports, music, literature and, of course, movies.

By 1925, he was working as a journalist in Vienna, writing interviews, sports stories and crime pieces. A year later, Wilder landed a job in Berlin doing publicity ghost-writing dozens of scenarios for silent movies.

The Nazis' rise to power prompted him to flee in 1933. Unable to speak English, he arrived in Hollywood and roomed with fellow emigre Peter Lorre, picking up enough of the language to get a few screenplay credits.

In 1937, he signed with Paramount Pictures and was paired with ex-theatre critic Charles Brackett, their credits eventually including such classic comedies as "Midnight" and "Ball of Fire."

But Wilder was a little too sure of himself; his nickname was "The Terror." He fought with directors over changes in his stories. Wilder had directed a film, "Mauvaise Graine" ("Bad Seed"), in Paris in 1933 and didn't care

for the experience, but he was ready to give it another try.

He debuted with "The Major and The Minor," a comedy starring Ray Milland as an army officer and Ginger Rogers as a woman who dresses like a 12-year-old, get half-fare for a train trip.

"It's a lighthearted film, a polite introduction. Much of the humor and visual style was standard for the time, but reviews were generally favourable, with Eileen Creelman of the New York Sun praising the director for

"Never relaxing into dullness or bad taste."

Rarely would Wilder be accused of dullness; bad taste was another matter. "A Foreign Affair," with the soundtrack blaring "Isn't it romantic?" to the sight of crumbling post-war Berlin, was deemed to be in "rotten taste" by critic James Agee.

"Ace In The Hole" and "One, Two, Three" inspired similar reactions.

Footage of Marilyn Monroe and Tony Curtis embracing in "Some Like It Hot" was deleted from Kansas

Sam Shepard breaks 6-year silence as playwright

As the U.S. celebrates victory in the Gulf, playwright Sam Shepard is under fire from New York critics for his latest play, a vicious attack on war. W.J. Weatherby reports

AMERICAN writers who were so volatile during the unpopular Vietnam war have been largely silent during the much more popular Gulf war. If anyone spoke up, it was expected to be professional controversialists like Norman Mailer and Gore Vidal, certainly not Sam Shepard, the existential cowboy of American drama, who has described politics as "shit" and claimed to have no interest in public issues.

Yet at a time when the United States is basking in Gulf war celebrations, Shepard has broken his six-year silence as a playwright to present a fierce, violent anti-war play, *States Of Shock*.

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A doctor rebels against 'clean- dry- and-full' mentality in old people's homes

Arnold Hilgers does not like what he sees when he looks at old people's homes. He says most are run too much like hospitals rather than places to live in. Doctors are making things worse by prescribing drugs too freely to keep people quiet. The results, he says, are often appalling. He recounts some horror stories to make his point. Hilgers is not only a doctor, he is also a socially concerned SPD politician who sits on the health committee in his home town of Düsseldorf. Concrete plans have been drawn up to introduce an insurance system to cover care for the aged. Hilgers is sceptical. He fears that even more people will be housed in homes because of the availability of the money in his field. Helmut Bremer reports for the Bonn daily, *Die Welt*.

DR. ARNOLD Hilgers recalls a case which ended four years ago in death. It was, he says, both horrible and typical. He had helped a married couple, aged respectively 75 and 72, to find a place in a home. Both were mentally and physically healthy, but the man, a retired senior civil servant, wanted a place for them both because his wife was totally dependent on him and they lived on the fourth floor of a building not served with a lift.

Hilgers managed to obtain a spacious room for the couple although the home management at first refused to allow them to live together, saying: "That has never happened here before." He said the couple moved in happy and healthy. "Six months later, they were both dead."

It is a sad and cautionary tale. "Their pension of 4,000 marks a month was gone at a stroke because the cost of care was much higher and social welfare had to step in." The first bitter consequence was that the couple received merely pocket money which the station sister "carefully" administered.

The man, hale and self-confident, was constantly spoke to in a disrespectful tone by the staff. "Grandpa, off to bed!" he was not allowed to go shopping and

and put her on natural medicines aimed at improving the circulation. Two weeks later, the patient had regained her appetite, had begun to put on weight and was again walking around "merry as a lark, just as she had been before, entertaining the entire home with her stories. That was precisely the problem."

Hilgers, thumbing through the file and, angered, continued: "Suddenly, she was disturbing the peace. The sisters complained more and more often and even rang me at home at any hour at all because my patient had become too unruly because I had taken her off the medicine. They blamed me for not being reasonable and giving them signed blank prescriptions. Then they would not have had to disturb me in the middle of the night."

Both had enjoyed their evenings. Now they are regularly pried with sleeping tablets and other medicine to "comfort and calm them."

Hilgers says that he noticed on every visit how their spirit was wilting and they were becoming more and more depressed.

"Then everything happened quickly. She died after five months. He lasted only another four weeks. They might have been alive today if they had had a ground floor apartment in their old house." But it was not this experience with "modern old people's homes with devoted staff" which prompted Hilgers to throw himself into a campaign for better care for the aged.

He says his eyes were opened by the care of a 68-year-old woman whom he visited as a locum tenens. "She was lying there apathetic and depressed, pumped full with drugs." He took off the drugs straight away

homes where old people are provided for and protected, a "clean-dry-and-full" mentality prevails instead of an attitude geared towards providing surroundings conducive to making life longer and fuller.

Hilgers has seen for himself how healthy old patients are not even dressed in the morning on days when the doctor is expected to make a visit. "Then they simply lie one day more, inactive and helpless in bed." It was worse in homes where sleeping tablets and tranquillisers were freely distributed. This led sometimes to incontinence and also to bed wetting because patients would sleep through instead of going to the lavatory in the middle of the night.

"Then comes the urologist and deploys a catheter and the patient becomes finally and irrevocably and unnecessarily bed-ridden," he says. Older people react more strongly to medication and that is why there should be great care in deciding on dosage. Many homes were unaware of the value of hot-and-cold baths for the feet, cold baths for the arms or even a cup of coffee as a nightcap. They were often not only more effective than sleeping pills but were also healthier.

Although it had been demonstrated in day clinics both in Germany and in other countries that 75 per cent of

patients regarded as being destined for care in a home could, following treatment aimed at rejuvenating their lust for life, be sent home again, "today there are many thousands of old people spending the remaining years of their lives in homes although the majority of them could live independently." Hilgers has developed an outpatients assistance scheme to meet the growing need.

Hilgers is an adviser to Med Plus GmbH Düsseldorf/Aachen which is working on residential accommodation plans in which a certain proportion of apartments would be specially designed for old people. The idea is for them to live an integrated but independent life similar to the way it used to be in the village, surrounded by young families, kindergartens, small tradesmen's businesses and people living in singles apartments. There would be a hospital nearby with a medical centre equipped to treat old people on an out-patient basis.

Med Plus's investigations show that such accommodation should be not only much more humane than the usual care in homes, but also much cheaper. A pilot project is due in the next year or so to see the light of day in Düsseldorf. In this connection, Hilgers welcomes the legal code of the Bonn Labour Minister Norbert Blüm which, says

Hilgers, for the first time offers the chance of clearing up the confusion over responsibility in the field. Blüm's idea for insurance to cover such things as care for the aged, however, is regarded with scepticism by Hilgers, who fears that it could lead to the temptation to despatch old people into homes simply because "the money to do this is there."

He urgently recommends relatives of old people who have to live in traditional homes to obtain the medication plan and to discuss it with a doctor they know. He says they should be suspicious if more than three types of medication are regularly given. If old people are to be "pacified" or are to get a catheter, then relatives should insist that the person be transferred to an emergency ward with specialist facilities. They should be careful about agreeing to psychiatric treatment.

Hilgers said that if relatives have any doubt about the death of a parent in a home, they should demand an obduction and a test to see if drugs have been used. "Lung embolism are a common cause of death in homes. And the chances of a lung embolism are increased by psychopharmaceuticals. Children at least owe their parents that much," The German Tribune.

Kids in non-smoking households are healthier

By Deborah Messe
The Associated Press

their products to young people, poor people, to minorities and to women."

The study by the National Centre for Health Statistics found that 4.1 per cent of young children in households with current smokers were in fair to poor health, compared with 2.4 per cent of children never exposed to tobacco smoke and 3.5 per cent of children in households where smokers had quit.

The new data shows children living with cigarette smokers are at nearly twice the risk of being in fair or poor health than those who were never exposed to smoke, either before or after birth.

Health and Human Services secretary Louis Sullivan said this was "a compelling reason for parents to quit smoking."

The new data also "will make it more difficult for the profiteers of parental puffing to pooh-pooh the danger of passive cigarette smoke on children," Sullivan told an audience in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

The people surveyed were asked "would you say (child's) health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?" The categories were not defined.

"It's the parents who have to interpret" the labels and pick the one that best characterizes their child's health, said Liz Greeley, a spokeswoman for the National Centre for Health Statistics.

The Tobacco Institute, which represents the tobacco industry, dismissed the study.

"It's no surprise that if you were to ask people about their children it would correlate to income. There were no measures of environmental smoke. This is about asking people how they assess their kids' health," Tobacco Institute spokesman Brennan Dawson said.

Dawson also noted that the study itself says the results should be interpreted "with caution" because they do not take into account possible variations in sampling and perceived health status.

"Ten to 15 per cent of Schizophrenics in chronic psychiatric hospitals drink excessive amounts of water sufficient to cause symptoms of overhydration," he said. Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder characterised by delusions, hallucinations and social isolation.

"High risk of poor health has to do with poverty and how people view things and not smoking and it's misleading to say otherwise," Dawson said.

Hispanic children were less likely than non-Hispanic children to have been exposed. While 51 per cent of non-Hispanic children had ever been exposed, 44 per cent of Hispanic children had been, and the proportion dropped to 40 per cent for Mexican-American children.

Scientists study water addicts for clues to Schizophrenia

By Jon Ferry
Reuter

VANCOUVER—Studies of people who literally get drunk on water may lead to a better understanding of the puzzling mental disease of Schizophrenia.

A team of Canadian doctors said last Tuesday some

people are addicted to water and some die after their brains become waterlogged.

"It looks a lot like alcohol intoxication. The brain gets waterlogged, you get swelling of the brain cells, just as you do with a head injury," spokesman Dr. Andzej Kocapski said.

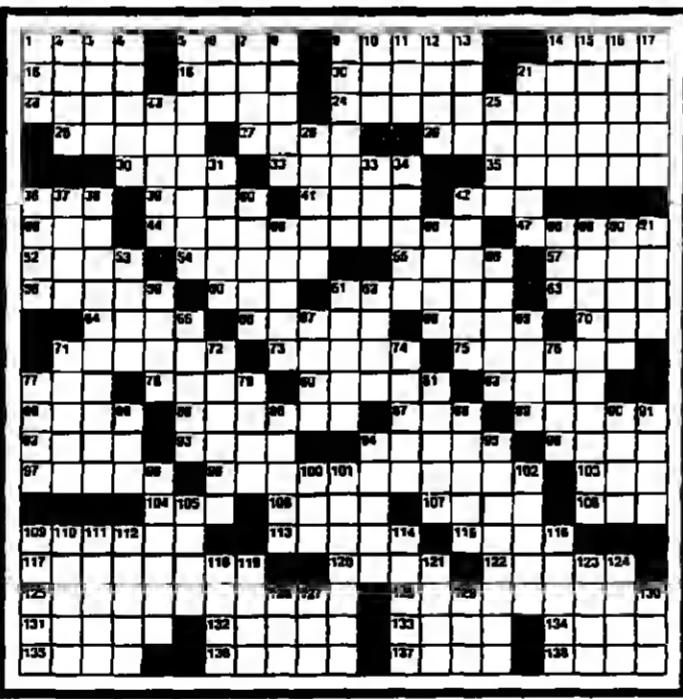
Kocapski, 41, said the water holics exhibit symptoms ranging from mild euphoria and slurred speech to confusion, staggering, seizures,

coma and even death. Schizophrenics appear to be especially at risk, the University of British Columbia psychiatric researcher said.

"Ten to 15 per cent of Schizophrenics in chronic psychiatric hospitals drink excessive amounts of water sufficient to cause symptoms of overhydration," he said.

Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder characterised by delusions, hallucinations and social isolation.

Weekend Crossword



Last Week's Cryptograms

- Very convivial runaway spouse was found tripping the light fantastic on the sidewalks of New York.
- Our scientists on the greenhouse effect area are frightening.
- Most zealous puzzlers can manage with a dull pencil as long as it has a good, new eraser.
- Our old washing machine should be known as a magical "soak absorber."

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. DLYLAZLG ELU MSIP QSZZYL ASOCHEM
LOCYSMLLD ULLZ ZSYC QM CREAM QSDD:
"MSR USIPLID BIL HYY ASPLID!"

—By Eugene T. Malaska

2. KCA KHS KEMMSTA KEWCXD XHAMX'D
KTPX CP SWHCP.

—By Earl Ireland

3. GDENY FRESH MELODYS GRIM. ODYU
GRTNF RULYS WESH, "ZA LDAZY EW ARTI
LDAZY."

—By Ed Buddison

4. CUPA PET CEMID JUDRL U MIDA TEEF
COMORT YIPPCORT YEEPCIL. —By Lois H. Jones

SOLUTIONS OF
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



An inheritance of suffering: Malformed blood cells

The cause: A single 'Point Mutation'
Further success in molecular biology

By Peter Konang
The German Research Service

The German Research Service (GRS) private lecturer Stefan W. Eber has recently demonstrated with his own research just how efficient molecular biological methods are today. Thanks to the paediatrician from Göttingen and his collaborators, the molecular geneticist Professor J. Prchal, Alabama, USA, as well as the haematology team at the Children's Clinic of the University of Göttingen, a hereditary malformation of the red blood cells has now been explained in full.

HUMAN red blood cells, the erythrocytes, have an unmistakable shape: Circular, with a thick edge and — not unlike a rubber raft — both sides are slightly concave in the middle. The red colour can be attributed to the haemoglobin, which binds vital oxygen to itself, thus making the red blood cells its carrier. However, it is not unusual for red blood cells to be congenitally malformed with membrane defects. Experts believe that there are 30,000 victims of this disorder in Germany and that as many as 700,000 non-affected carriers might be responsible for hereditary transmission of this defect.

The most important disorder of this kind was termed hereditary spherocytosis, due to the way in which the red blood cells are misshaped. As is the case for all human blood cells, the erythrocytes possess a membrane consisting of fatty substances, which is subjected to extreme stress in the bloodstream. Consequently, this membrane has a "strengthened mesh" made of the protein spectrin. The stability of this system is strengthened even more by

additional proteins, which project through the membrane like columns and thus bolster the structure of the mesh. However, in the case of hereditary spherocytosis, the mesh is too weak because it does not contain enough spectrin strands.

In the search for possible causes of this malformation, researchers have concentrated on the suffering of a family from Göttingen entailing severe anaemia and membrane defects. Here, they were dealing with elliptocytosis, which is closely related to hereditary spherocytosis. This defect, which prevents the "mesh" from closing, has been traced to one of the four "components" which make up spectrin. Apparently, in this case a coupling element is lacking.

This is where the search commenced, tracing the coupling defect back to its origins in the genetic material, the chromosomes. Proteins consist of amino acids arranged in a series, whose sequence and configuration determine the future characteristics of the protein. How the body is to produce its various proteins is set down in the hereditary "genetic code." This information is initially "red"

in mirrored code by appropriate messengers and then brought out of the cell nucleus into the cell plasma. Here, this mirrored code serves as the blueprint for the production of the respective protein. If all of the various steps of this complex molecular process are traced, they then lead the researchers to their "reading site"; research work much more complicated than it might appear.

This is how the researchers succeeded in recognising a defect at the reading site of the chromosomal genetic factors for "spectrin components": One single alteration in the molecular information — a so-called point mutation — located on the information carrying section causes all subsequent information to be read incorrectly. However, it is precisely the section demonstrating the point mutation which is responsible for the coupling of spectrin sub-units. Thus, the cause of a hereditary disorder has now been completely explained.

Although no cure has yet been found, the chances for one have increased considerably thanks to this discovery by scientists from Göttingen and Alabama.

Masri briefs King on plans

(Continued from page 1) minister. Mr. Masri had set the stage for his ministers' task at a meeting just before the feast recess last week.

"The government is committed to implement all the directives contained in the King's letter of designation, which would serve as a guideline for the government's programmes reflecting its outlook towards the coming stage," said the prime minister in the Cabinet's opening meeting last Thursday.

He said the government would pursue every effort designed to give momentum to the democratic march and towards the introduction of political pluralism by

enacting laws governing political parties and the press and publication in Jordan.

The prime minister also urged Cabinet members to take speedy measures for addressing pressing issues like unemployment and reforms in public administration and public services.

Earlier Wednesday, the Prime Ministry was visited by representatives of various public and popular organisations in the Kingdom who came to offer good wishes and congratulations to the new government and to Mr. Masri. Among those visiting the Prime Ministry Wednesday were heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in Amman.

Kuwait commutes death sentences

(Continued from page 1) reported the sentences had been commuted.

Kuwait's Justice Minister Ghazi Obeid Al Samar said 125 remaining cases of suspected collaboration with the Iraqis were being sent to the general prosecutor for reassignment to civilian courts.

Court officials said those trials

would resume on Saturday in Kuwait's state security court, with the same civilian judges but not the two military judges.

On May 19, the tribunals began reviewing about 450 cases of residents accused of cooperating with the Iraqi army during its occupation.

The 29 people sentenced to death were mostly Jordanians, Palestinians and stateless Arabs.

Settler attacked in Hebron

(Continued from page 1)

Israeli Television on Friday to air an unprecedented report on undercover army units posing as Arabs to fight the Palestinian uprising.

Journalists, soldiers and Palestinians have long known of the undercover squads but military censors barred any report of their activities until Friday's broadcast.

Official military sources on Tuesday confirmed press reports that an investigation has been under way for over a year into allegations that undercover soldiers beat Palestinians in the West Bank village of Kufri Dik.

Five villagers ended up in hospital.

The indictment reported on Wednesday dealt with a second incident, involving undercover soldiers in Gaza's Bureij refugee camp on Oct. 4, 1989. Yedioth

A lieutenant-colonel commanding an undercover unit in Bureij ordered a lieutenant to shoot at the body instead of the legs of a fleeing Palestinian, in violation of standing army orders, the indictment said.

The commander thus bore responsibility for the death of the Palestinian and the lieutenant was accused of obeying an illegal order, the indictment said.

Tanks deployed in Algiers

(Continued from page 1)

Chadli Benjedid three weeks ago to declare a state of siege, sack his government and postpone general elections.

Heavy army lorries and open-backed jeeps carrying soldiers, rifles pointing in the air, followed the tanks.

The army, ordered in three weeks ago, had gradually been withdrawing its forces and on Monday night most of the remaining tanks had pulled out.

But violence erupted on Tuesday — sparked by calls from mosques for defiance of the curfew — when police tried to remove Islamic symbols, erected by the FIS on local town halls as the "first step to an Islamic state."

The Algerian news agency said

new Prime Minister Sid Ahmad Ghozali, who formed a government on June 18, discussed the situation with defence and other ministers Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Ghozali reiterated the government's priority of restoring peace and pledged to take all steps to protect citizens and the democratic process.

The prime minister, who was promised a general election later this year, was expected to make a public statement later on Wednesday or Thursday, the agency said.

No date has been set for presidential elections despite demands for an early poll, Mr. Benjedid's five-year term ends officially in 1993.

Battle of nerves in Yugoslavia

(Continued from page 1)

"If force is used against Slovenia, Slovenia will respond," he said.

Slovenian flags were flying at the border posts and signs declaring the republic of Slovenia had replaced the Yugoslav ones, he said.

The federal army moved into the Croatian town of Gima, 50

kilometres, south of the republic's capital, Zagreb, Croatian radio and officials reported. The troops moved in after ethnic violence between Croats and minority Serbs on Wednesday killed two people and wounded at least four.

Parliament normally has no control over the army.

(Continued from page 1)

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Can Omar find his way through the Middle East maze?

By Lamis Andoni

MADONNA and the Palestinian flag are equally prominent on the walls of Omar Abu Gharbiye's bedroom, though they do not hang equally large in his dreams or his life.

Like his friends, Omar is fascinated with glamourous women and Western pop music. He does not care much about Madonna's music, however, and says he will choose someone "who thinks" as a girlfriend. And like all teens here, Omar has been profoundly affected by the Gulf war and the Palestinian intifada (uprising), now in its fourth year.

He is of Palestinian origin. He was born in Jerusalem 16 years ago. Omar says that he dreams of going back there to settle, preferably when the Israeli occupation ends.

"I want to live there ... I love living there," he says. Omar lived in Jerusalem three years before moving to Amman with his mother. Up until the intifada began in the Israeli-occupied territories, Omar had spent nearly every summer vacation in Nablus — his mother's hometown and a hotbed for Palestinian nationalism.

In Nablus, Omar went with his mother every day to his jewelry shop in old souk, Al Oasha. "That is what I want to be: a gold jewelry maker," Omar says.

Omar's mother, Fatima Al Masri, recalls that Omar was so serious about the craft that her brother would trust Omar to open the store in the morning for him. Fatima's father is also a jeweler, who learned the craft from the noted Armenian jeweler of Jerusalem.

One of Omar's well-off uncles has promised to send him to Aleppo, an ancient Syrian

city famous for its gold work, or to Italy. "I sure hope to go to Italy," said Omar, as he exchanged a meaningful smile with his older brother, Aboud.

Meanwhile, Omar has one more year of high school at an Anglican private school. The Bishop's Boys School is one of several Christian schools in Jordan, though Omar and his family are Muslims.

The school caters mainly to the affluent, but many middle-class parents here scrupulously give to their children the advanced education — particularly in the teaching of foreign languages — that private schools here are known for.

Though Omar is an A student, he is also rebellious. He resents the glaring class differences between students at school. "I do not like rich, pompous kids, but some rich kids are nice and modest. I take these as friends," he said.

"He is resentful of authority but has a soft spot for the weak and poor," says Fatima of her son. She is a single mother who struggles to make ends meet as a movie director, working mainly for Jordan Television. She is often called by teachers or the school's headmaster, who complain that Omar is a troublemaker.

On a typical day, Omar leaves home early — the ride to school takes an hour and a half by bus — in order to have time to meet friends at a popular falafel stall near the school or to play basketball, which he loves. During the break at school, he and his friends like to hang out at the falafel stall or watch girls from another private school nearby.

Back home, Omar has to find time to do his homework, help his mother around the house and in the garden (they do not have a maid, unlike most middle-class families in

Amman), and visit with friends.

He spends a lot of time with his brother Aboud, who has just finished community college and is preparing to go to the United States to work and study. When the brothers have time, they enjoy lifting weights for hours in Omar's room.

Omar goes to parties occasionally. "Since I cannot have the car yet, sometimes I have to stay at home and cannot go and meet my friends in Amman or to parties," he said. Eighteen is the driving age in Jordan.

The Gulf crisis and war have deeply affected Omar's life.

Omar was always interested in Palestinian politics, says Fatima, especially since his peers in Nablus are taking part in the intifada. "He was profoundly moved when Ayman, our neighbour in Nablus, was killed by Israeli soldiers last year," she says. "For four days he would ask me to tell Ayman's story to him over and over again."

The Gulf crisis — specifically, the Iraqi defeat — changed his life, says Omar. "Before the Gulf crisis, my friends and I used to talk mostly about girls, but after that we only talk about politics. No more partying," he said with a twinge of pain in his voice.

To Omar and his friends, "talking politics" meant exchanging news about the war and their great expectations from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein whom they viewed as a "courageous national leader."

"We thought that Saddam could deliver something," says Omar. "That if he was able to face up to the West, our lives in the area will change to the better. But what happened was a catastrophe. Everything is finished," said Omar, his voice

growing loud and edgy.

At the beginning of the crisis, Saddam's challenge to the West captured the imagination of many Jordan youths. Saddam became the idol of all Jordanian teens, who are heavily influenced by the Palestinian cause and resentful of United States' support for Israel.

This was quite a change from the years of the Iran-Iraq war, when Saddam was not so popular here. "He only became a hero when faced up to the West," says Jordan's leading sociologist, Dr. Sari Nasser.

Most of the people who took part in pro-Saddam demonstrations during the crisis were young people, he notes. Jordanian teens, heavily influenced — though superficially so — by Western culture, saw Saddam as an Arab superman defending Arab interests against Western domination.

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Omar Abu Gharbiye: "What is the use of expressing myself anymore? Nobody cares or listens. This world is for the powerful."

power. We keep on remembering how powerful (President) Bush is, and how weak and powerless we are."

It is a common reaction here, Dr. Nasser observes: "People, particularly teenagers, feel lost ... They feel they do not belong; they are in a kind of a maze."

"The immediate impact is that they try to escape," he continues. "Once the dust settles, the picture will be different."

At the time of this interview, Omar was preparing to go to the West Bank for his summer vacation. He seemed tense, but said he was looking forward to seeing his peers. The fighters in the intifada. He has lost hope, but "they know better," he says, seeming to hope that Nablus will revive his hope in his own and his people's future.

The above article was originally written for the Christian Science Monitor.

U.S. lawmakers use aid as weapon

— Republicans and Democrats — who also saw in cutting aid a chance to "punish" Amman for what they interpreted as a "pro-Iraq" stand in the Gulf crisis.

"Jordan deserves not to be criticised, but condemned," said Congressman Mickey Edwards of Oklahoma, the ranking Republican on the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Foreign Operations.

"Jordan and King Hussein gave support to us not to be, who have been friendly allies of theirs before, but to our enemy, Saddam Hussein," said Congressman Harold Volkmer, a Democrat from Missouri who introduced his amendment on the House floor during both debates on the authorisation and appropriation of the foreign aid. "Jordan, under King Hussein, was providing not only vocal support but military assistance and other support for Iraq, and our enemy Saddam Hussein," he contended.

To support his argument, Mr. Burton cited intelligence reports, which he said could not gel into "security reasons," reports which he said linked Jordan with Iraq in the Gulf crisis. "The fact of the matter is he (King Hussein) was working with Saddam Hussein," he said.

"I don't think this Congress should give one dime to that country until we know there has been a change, a real change, in attitude," Burton said.

The conservative Republican was joined by other colleagues from both sides of the aisle

aided and abetted and gave comfort to our enemy at a time when 550,000 young American lives were at risk," Mr. Burton argued.

"If they are going to try to kill American young men and women or aid and abet that effort, by golly, they are not entitled to anything we have to offer them or in this country," Mr. Burton maintained.

Several administration officials, including State Department spokesman Boucher, had gone on the record earlier this year saying an investigation into the reports of alleged arms transfer from Jordan to Iraq after Aug. 2, 1990 had produced no evidence to support the claims.

The vote on Jordan, which was so overwhelmingly in favour of aid suspension, was by no means cast along party lines, or along conservative-liberal lines. Media analysts who closely follow Congress believe the "freebee" for members of Congress to bash Jordan for its perceived position during the Gulf war. It is, the media sources believe, a very popular issue with legislators; constituents who are by and large opposed to foreign aid, with the possible exception, in some cases, of U.S. aid to Israel.

The five-minute House floor debate saw some rather uncharacteristic arguments for presidential flexibility.

Mr. Hamilton, the respected chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, cited the appointment of Mr. Baker as the main witness two weeks ago. Senator Ernest Hollings, a Democrat from South Carolina, told the Secretary of State he thought the Jordanian leaders "went with their people" in adopting a position sympathetic to the Iraqi people during the Gulf crisis.

Last week's vote confirmed that perhaps only a handful of lawmakers realise the irony of the U.S. government's frowning on Jordan for its Gulf crisis posture. During a Senate hearing which featured Mr. Baker as the main witness two weeks ago, Senator Ernest Hollings, a Democrat from South Carolina, told the Secretary of State he thought the Jordanian leaders "went with their people" in adopting a position sympathetic to the Iraqi people during the Gulf crisis.

Two days before the House voted on the anti-Jordan amendment, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs John House, told members of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East that Jordan was now "coming our way." The fact that the new cabinet excludes members of the Muslim Brotherhood has not gone unnoticed in

Washington, neither by the administration nor by the media. A highly-placed U.S. official recently said Mr. Taher Masri's appointment as prime minister to head a cabinet which excludes representatives of the Muslim Brotherhood may reflect Amman's preoccupation with the peace process.

"I think we ought to encourage Jordan in those directions and not discourage them," Mr. Hamilton asserted.

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Tauziat and Huber score 1st round wins at Wimbledon

LONDON (R) — The world's top tennis players were forced to watch the rain pour down for the third successive day at Wimbledon Wednesday.

Only five women's singles matches were completed before a heavy downpour halted play soon after noon. More showery weather was forecast on the scheduled third day of the increasingly soggy championships.

The rain has played havoc with the daily programme, allowing just 33 matches to be resolved so far. Former champion Jimmy Connors, for example, has had his first-round match against Finn Veli Paloheimo rescheduled three times on three different courts but has still to swing a racket in anger.

In the hour's play possible, women's seeds Anke Huber and

Natalie Tauziat wasted no time securing first-round successes over Czechoslovak-born players.

Germany's Huber beat Veronika Martinsek, whose parents defected to Germany in 1980, 6-1 6-2 in an efficient display lasting just 50 minutes.

The 13th seed raced to a 5-0 lead in the first set, relying on a heavy top-spin forehand interspersed with some delicate backhand drop shots.

Martinek lifted her game in the second set, breaking Huber in the fifth game, but Huber was always in control, commenting later she aimed to improve her play to the net.

French 11th seed Tauziat enjoyed a 6-4 7-5 win over Regine Rajchrtova, despite losing her serve twice in an error-filled second set.

Tauziat, untroubled by the gusty conditions, fought back from 3-1 down to lead 4-3 in the second set but still found herself serving to stay in the match at 5-4 to her opponent.

Rajchrtova, who beat Tauziat in their last meeting two years ago, could not repeat the trick, however, and Tauziat wrapped things up with an ace on match-point.

The most relieved early winner of the day was American Pam Shriver, winner of only one game during an embarrassing defeat by Spain's Arantxa Sanchez Vicario at Eastbourne last week.

Shriver took out her frustration in the final set, breaking Huber in the tie-break. Frazier was also taken to a tie-break by Luxembourg's Karin Kschwendt in an uninspiring tussle on court 14.

Leand, who graduated in psychology at Princeton University, looked capable of straining Shriver's nerves in a third set but failed to grasp her chance at key moments in the second set. Shriver left the court shaking her head just as the first rain-drops began to fall.

Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union, the 12th seed, and 14th-seeded American Amy Frazier both survived early difficulties to be a set up when play was suspended.

Zvereva's opponent Cristina Tessi of Argentina tossed away two set-points as the Soviet player took a tense first set 7-3 in a tie-break. Frazier was also taken to a tie-break by Luxembourg's Karin Kschwendt in an uninspiring tussle on court 14.

Tyson, Ruddock tone down attacks



Mike Tyson

Jordan is hottest pitchman in sports, ad makers say

By Hal Bock
The Associated Press

FOR MORE than a decade, if you wanted to sell something and were looking for a sports tie-in, you stuck the product in the hands of Arnold Palmer, sat back and waited for the revenue to start rolling in.

Now, the sports marketing letter suggests you probably are better advised to enroll Michael Jordan as your spokesperson.

Oh, it's not that Palmer is finished as a pitchman. Far from it. It's just that Jordan's sweep of the National Basketball Association (NBA) regular season and playoff MVP titles as well as Chicago's rush to the league championship have made the Bulls' main man Madison Avenue's hottest commodity.

"He's hotter than any recent athlete we've seen in the prime of a career," said Brian Murphy, publisher of sports marketing letter, who has been tracking the popularity of athlete endorsers for two and one half years. "He will be super-hot this summer and fall."

York. He also called him a transvestite.

Asked at Tuesday's news conference if he felt repentant about the remarks, Tyson, feigning contrition, said, "I'm sorry Razor that I called you bad names."

"Mike Tyson is Mike Tyson," Ruddock said. "He can say what he wants, I don't pay attention to that."

He did in May.

Reacting to Tyson "girlfriend" remark, Ruddock had said, "I think he's trying to get brave enough to come out of the

closet."

He also called Tyson a moron and an ignorant little kid.

On Tuesday, Tyson complimented Ruddock, who he stopped in the seventh round of a slugfest March 18. Referee Richard Steele was roundly criticized for stopping the fight.

"He's good," Tyson said of Ruddock. "No doubt, he's good."

Not good enough, however, in Tyson's opinion.

"I beat him before and I'll beat him again," Tyson said. "He's going to get knocked out."

3 hold overnight lead in New Zealand Rally

AUCKLAND (R) — Three drivers shared the overnight lead after a brief opening to the New Zealand Rally Wednesday.

The special stage took less than a minute and a half as Juha Kankkunen of Finland and Didier Auriol of France in their Lancias and Markku Alen of Finland in his Subaru all clocked one minute 28 seconds for the two-kilometre course around an Auckland car park.

The 1990 world champion and 1991 series leader, Carlos Sainz of Spain, was two seconds behind in his Toyota, his time matched by the Mazda of Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden, who won the event in 1989.

Most drivers took a cautious approach to the tight stage, but Alen drew a big cheer from the crowd with a spectacular flight and bevy landing over an artificial jump.

Sainz leads the 1991 championship by 17 points from Kankkunen, with Auriol a further 16 points behind. The rally counts for the drivers' championship but not the manufacturers' title.

Murphy, his sponsors remained with him an average 13 years, a remarkable longevity.

Magic Johnson, whose Los Angeles Lakers lost to Jordan and the Bulls in the NBA finals, is fourth on the spokesperson's list, weighing in at an impressive \$9 million, followed by golfer Greg Norman at \$8.5 million.

Norman's package includes a 1-dollar-a-year agreement to represent Australian tourism, a deal that does little for his bank account but provides considerable exposure. That, according to the marketing letter, could result in other more lucrative deals down the road.

The second five is headed by tennis star Andre Agassi, still seeking his first major title, and includes Chris Evert and professional football and baseball player Bo Jackson.

Agassi's spokesman earnings are estimated at \$7 million tied with hockey star Wayne Gretzky.

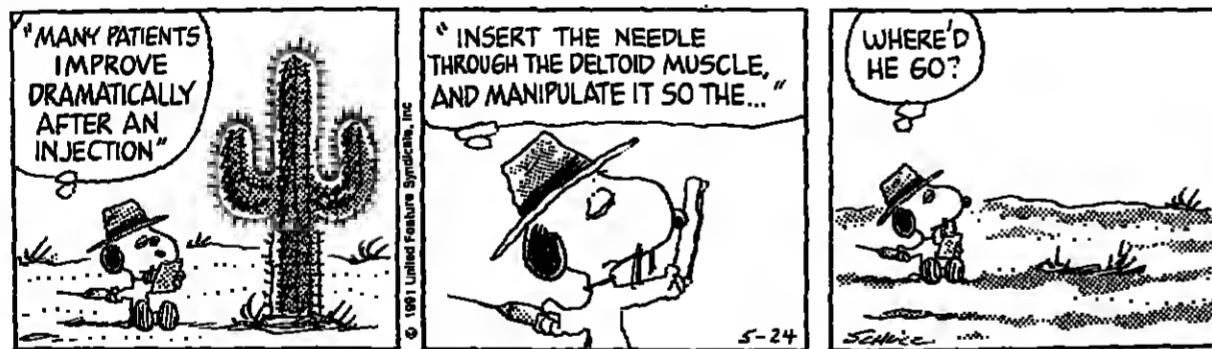
They are followed by 49ers quarterback Joe Montana and Evert, both at \$6 million, and Jackson at \$5 million.

He still sells, though.

"Palmer enjoys the trust factor to an overwhelming extent," Murphy said. "It's hard to find anyone who doesn't respond positively to the man. To see him is to like him."

Like Palmer, Nicklaus has staying power. According to

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Yugoslavia beats Poland in European basketball

ROME (AP) — Defending champion Yugoslavia, paced by stars Toni Kukoc, Dino Radja and Vlade Divac, clinched a semifinal berth in the European Basketball Championships, trouncing Poland 103-61.

The second victory in as many games gave the favourite Yugoslavs four points in the standings, out of immediate reach of Spain and Poland, which have two points each out of two games in their group.

The Yugoslavs, who are going after their fifth continental title in 20 years, take on underdog Bulgaria in the final match of their round-robin Group A, while the second semifinalist will be decided by the clash between the Spaniards and the Poles.

Greece, the 1987 European champion and Yugoslavia's runner-up in 1989, has all but missed qualification for the semifinals following a 113-123 upset by Czechoslovakia in Group B, which also includes Italy and France.

Yugoslavia, which downed Spain 76-67 in its opening game Monday, dominated Poland throughout as coach Dusan Ivkovic rotated his best players, tested schemes and fielded several reserves in the last five minutes.

Kukoc, 23, who rejected bids by the NBA's Washington Bullets last month to play in the Italian League with Benetton Treviso, was unstoppable as he led fast attacks.

In a five-minute overtime, former Seton Hall University player Nikos Galis gave Greece a 111-105 lead.

The Czechoslovak players again rallied to a tie at 113, then added ten points while shooting the Greeks.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Whatever makes it possible for you to adopt a better system for your regular responsibilities is fine now so consult with those in the know.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) This is your day to arrive at a whole new awareness of what others want and expect from you which can be translated into active success.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Whenever you do something that you would like to have don't hesitate but go directly after it and it can come right into your hands.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 20) Tell out with higher-up what you want of a worldly nature and do not hesitate to speak up with your firm convictions even though he seems to disapprove.

CAPRICORN: (December 21 to January 19) Tell those close to you what you would like to have them do that can give you a better insight into new ways and new ideas to develop.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 18) You are actively ill when not hard at work on some project and this is your day to make sure you do concentrate upon that activity.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) Look straight at whatever knowledge is available to you of a educational nature and you find you can absorb more easily words of wisdom.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY JUNE 27, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

things so that whether in personal or business matters they are as you'd like them to be.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Now you find your delight in your property and possessions also indicates things that you can do to make them more as suits your own particular purpose.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Whenever you do something that you would like to have don't hesitate but go directly after it and it can come right into your hands.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 20) Tell out with higher-up what you want of a worldly nature and do not hesitate to speak up with your firm convictions even though he seems to disapprove.

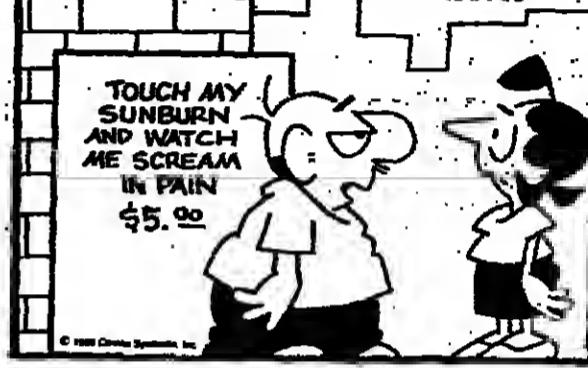
CAPRICORN: (December 21 to January 19) Tell those close to you what you would like to have them do that can give you a better insight into new ways and new ideas to develop.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 18) You are actively ill when not hard at work on some project and this is your day to make sure you do concentrate upon that activity.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) Look straight at whatever knowledge is available to you of a educational nature and you find you can absorb more easily words of wisdom.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"We live in a sick society...so why not make a buck from it?"

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY JUNE 28, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: All kinds of problems could arise today in that others -- or you -- are apt to break promises made or be under considerable tension to state what you feel in a disconnected, unpleasant manner.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

You want to branch out in some new lines but you have many unfinished tasks to do and if you want to take the time to do them consciously all's well.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18)

You have all kinds of obligations to attend but you feel like going off and playing the heck with them which would bring you nothing but the ill will of experts.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21)

Whatever you do is your moment to show you are the one who does value your usual allies instead of going off on some appealing wild goose chase.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20)

Now you find that whatever investigation you do should be done very quietly or others can get very angry and cause you unpleasant problems.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19)

Friends can be in a bad mood and cause you considerable distress if you take them seriously or get in a way of what they want to get lost.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20)

Your reputation in your community could suffer considerably if you take any chances whatever with your reputation so be sure to avoid the risk.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH MIRSCH
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NEITHER VULNERABLE. West deals.

NORTH
♦ J 7
♦ K 6 4 3
♦ A Q 8 3
♦ K 10 4

WEST
♦ A K 8 6 4
♦ A 8 7
♦ 9
♦ 9 7 5

EAST
♦ Q 9 5 3
♦ 9 5
♦ J 2
♦ J 9 7 5

SOUTH
♦ 10 2
♦ Q 10 2
♦ K 10 7 6 5
♦ A

The bidding: West 1 North 2 East 2 South 2

Opening lead: King of ♦

If someone approached you and said, "Give me \$42 and I'll improve your bridge tenfold," would you hand over the cash? In essence, that's what former world champion Mike Lawrence is doing with his 15 *Topics on Bridge* (Lawrence Publishing, 131 Alvarado Rd., Berkeley, Calif. \$4705, \$5 per topic, \$40 for the set, plus \$2 postage and handling.) The 15 booklets cover the gamut of bidding and play, and each is loaded with sage advice. This hand is from *Topic 9, Signals on Defense*.

Note South's jump to four hearts with a four-card major, ignoring the six-card minor. North's takeout

double of one spade virtually guaranteed four cards in the other major and, since it would be easier to make, game in a major than a minor. South bid what he thought he could make.

"You lead the king of spades and East plays the nine? Is East saying he likes spades or is it a suit